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MARCH 1965

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# FINANCIAL DAY OF RECKONING AT HAND

**by TOM JAGGER**

**ALL over the soccer world people are talking today about players' wages, and whether they should be pegged or go on rising to the skies.**

There are two distinct schools of thought, and they split one way or the other according largely to their own well-being.

Those who have the money and know that plenty more will be coming in all the time, are not nearly so concerned whether a player picks up only £25 a week or £100.

It's really all the same to them so long as their club stays in the limelight and keeps the stars who can win them the big honours.

There are plenty of clubs in that happy position. For instance, Manchester Utd., Everton, Spurs, Sunderland, Liverpool, Chelsea, and Leeds. They are packing 'em in week after week, and there is always plenty of extra cash to meet mounting bills.

### "In the red"

But they are the favoured ones. The opposite side of the picture reveals that more than half of Britain's professional clubs are "in the red".

Recent balance sheets showed over twenty of the Football League's ninety-two clubs owing over £20,000. Another ten have debts totting up to more than £10,000.

Those clubs have to keep a tight watch on finances, these days. And, as the weekly wage bill is the biggest headache, they are trying to trim it.

They can see no end to demands for fatter wage packets, and, possibly quite rightly, are now wanting a return to an agreed maximum rate.

Two years ago they thought slightly differently. They agreed to lift the ceiling, and let individual clubs pay what they liked. It looked a good idea at the time, but has not turned out exactly as they had anticipated.

### Wages

Players are holding clubs to ransom. They threaten to leave for wealthier clubs if they don't get the money they want. And in scores of instances all over the country, clubs are paying out more in wages than is coming through the turnstiles.

The clubs with money to burn are happy with individual arrangements which allow them to fix Prime Ministers' salaries for their stars because that kind of treatment keeps the top players contented.

But when news of their fabulous salaries leaks down the grape vine it causes trouble. Other players become upset and start wondering about moves to clubs which will pay more.

So now the battle is on, and it's not merely linking together those in the bottom divisions. Oh, dear, no. Many First and Second Division clubs are joining in for the complete scrapping of this wage freedom.

Chairmen have told the League Management Committee about the need for a return to a maximum, and it looks as if there will eventually be a free-for-all at the League's annual meeting next June.

What's going to happen? At the moment, moves backstage are aiming at a graded maximum system, rising from £20 for a Fourth Division player to £40 in the First Division.

### Necessary

The poorest clubs say they may have to go out of existence if it is necessary to pay anything more than £20 a week next winter. And even those in the top circle argue that, generally, £40 a week is high enough for most of them.

The Professional Footballers' Association is quietly watching developments. They know that the present system is best for their members, and, of course, are not concerned about how individual clubs manage their finances.

*It's nothing to do with them* that hundreds of thousands of fans are still staying away from the games.

*It's nothing to do with them* that directors are having to dig down for wages at some clubs.

*It's nothing to do with them* that most players get more than the entire office staff.

But they won't be able to keep aloof much longer. The clubs are determined for strong action—action which could blow up into a strike.

A strike has been threatened before at various times, but always it has faded out at the end.

But it could happen this year. And if it does the clubs will be ready to meet the challenge with teams made up of amateurs.

For, as the chairman of one famous club said to me: "This may develop into a fight for survival by all but just a few clubs."

## TOP MAN IN HIS PROFESSION

Johnny Haynes the Fulham and former England international inside-forward was reputed to be the first £100 a week English footballer when the maximum wage was lifted. (C.2.)



**THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE**

**World Soccer**

1 LUDGATE CIRCUS BUILDINGS, LUDGATE CIRCUS
LONDON, E.C.4., ENGLAND CITy 0425

Editor
JACK ROLLIN

Editorial & Advertisement Director ROBERT J. BOLLE

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**FRONT COVER PICTURE**

**Hungarian international Jozsef Meszoly does the scissors-kick—a glimpse of Magyar talent which will be on display at Wembley in May? (Metelmann.)**

**WORLD SOCCER** is published monthly by Echo Publications (London) Ltd., 1 Ludgate Circus Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.4, England. Situated at this address are the magazine's Editorial, Advertising and Publishing offices. Printed by The Carlton Press, The Broadway, Chesham, Bucks.

**EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** will be gladly received for consideration, providing such items (articles or photographs) are accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. No responsibility will be accepted for the return of manuscripts or photographs if this condition is not observed. The Editor cannot accept responsibility for loss or injury during transit.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES** can be obtained upon direct application to the publishers of WORLD SOCCER.

**OVERSEAS CIRCULATION:** Agents in all countries are urgently needed to help develop the circulation of WORLD SOCCER. Distributing organisations and individual circulation specialist interested in handling WORLD SOCCER at very favourable terms should contact The Circulation Manager, WORLD SOCCER, 1 Ludgate Circus Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.4, England.

**ADVERTISING:** Rate Card and details supplied on application to Advertisement Director.

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**INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM**

*Jan. 3: Uruguay 0 East Germany 2*
*,, 16: Jamaica 2 Cuba 0—W.C.*
*,, 20: Cuba 1 Neth. Antilles 1 —W.C.*
*,, 23: Jamaica 2 Neth. Antilles 0 —W.C.*
*,, 24: Portugal 5 Turkey 1—W.C.*
*,, 26: Israel 0 Netherlands 1*
*,, 31: Cuba 0 Neth. Antilles 1 —W.C.*

# WORLD CUP PROGRESS IN FAR-OFF LANDS

**INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM**

**Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference. .**

**by GORDON JEFFERY**

**THE usually quiet month of January affords an opportunity to bring the World Cup Qualifying Competition progress up-to-date as far as the European Groups (as set out in the January issue of "World Soccer") are concerned, and to extend the coverage to the non-European groups. In the process I can also have regard to some of the matches that were played during the month since all International matches played between now and the end of 1965 must have some relevance to the World Cup.**

Israel, the outsider of the three countries in Group One, play few Full International matches. Indeed the only one played in 1964 was on December 1 against Denmark. They have got off to an earlier start in 1965 with a home match against the Netherlands in preparation for their World Cup matches in Belgium (in May) and Bulgaria (in June). Israel's "A" team have played England's Under-23s twice in recent years and it may be possible to glean something of their development by recalling those matches. The first was played at Leeds in November, 1961. Bobby Moore was at right-half for England and his West Ham team-mate, Joe Kirkup, was behind him at right-half. And in front of Bobby Moore was his club-mate to-be, Johnny Byrne—then with Crystal Palace and playing in this match at inside-right. The temptation, looking back at that Young England line-up of little more than three years ago, is to linger with England's story but my concern is supposed to be with Israel.

### Successor

Suffice to add about England that they won the match by seven goals to one and that their scorers were Johnny Byrne two, Fred Hill two, and Farmer (Wolves — at centre-forward), Mandy Hill (spoken of then as Blackpool's and perhaps England's successor to Stanley Matthews) and Gordon Harris (at outside-left) one apiece.

Israel, incidentally, not only brought their full national team to play, they brought their referee. This was something I had not remembered until I looked up the record but what is interesting is that the referee was Mr. Ashkenazi who, as Brian Glanville noted last month in WORLD SOCCER, was seen to be one of the world's best referees when he took charge (literally as much as metaphorically) of the Olympics Final between Hungary and Czechoslovakia last October in Tokyo.

Israel's team: Chodorov; Aharonov, Tendler; Peterburg, Levkovitch, Gideon Tisch; Mentchel, Stelmach, Rozenbaum, S. Levy (who scored Israel's lone goal) and Young. Eighteen months later when Brazil, in the course of their mainly European tour, played in Tel Aviv (and won 5-0), only Levkovitch, Tisch, Mentchel (at inside-right) and Stelmach (at centre-forward) of the eleven who had played at Leeds were in the Israeli team. Rockman was in goal, Shmilowitz and Leon the backs, Grundman at right-half, D. Bursuk outside-right, and S. Cohen and Blanero the left-wing pair.

### Touring

Almost exactly a year later, in May 1964, the England U-23 touring team played in Tel Aviv against the following Israel "A" team: Chodorov; Primo, Leon; Bachar, Levkovitch, Tisch; Friedrici, Stelmach, Kaufman, Spiegler and Kalish. England, beaten four days before by the odd goal in three against Hungary U-23 in Budapest before five thousand spectators, had a comfortable four-nil victory over Israel—but, a sign of the enthusiasm for football in Israel, twenty thousand watched the match.

Nachoem Stelmach and Amatsia Levkovitch are the only players to have appeared in the three matches in 1961, 1963 and May 1964 that I have mentioned and also in the matches against Denmark last December and now, in January 1965, against the Netherlands. Stelmach is twenty-eight, Levkovitch twenty-five and the former is credited with some fifty appearances for Israel but clearly not in that number of Full International matches.

### Conceded

Chodorov the veteran 'keeper seems unlikely to be between the posts for the World Cup matches. Levin has kept in the last two — and conceded, of course, only one goal in each match. Israel's problem indeed is not in preventing goals but in scoring themselves. David Primo who was at right-back last summer against Young England also played against Denmark but not against the Netherlands—Atzmon came in. Leon at left-back and Bacher at right-half played in the last two Full Internationals as they had against Young England but there has been difficulty in filling Gideon Tisch's place at left-half. Katzav began the match against Denmark but



**East German international inside-forward Nachtigall who has been on tour with his country's team in South America. Results of matches in Uruguay appear in this article as well as the South American Commentary. (A.P.I.)**

Shimon Cohen (the inside-left against Brazil in May, 1963) came on as substitute, whilst against the Netherlands the left-half was Ben Baroukh.

### Welcomed

Heymann was outside-right against Denmark, Chminlovitch against the Netherlands; Stelmach, Spiegler and Young (IR, IL and OL) played in both matches, but Sholmovit was centre-forward against Denmark and Chelnikier against the Netherlands. Assuming everyone is fit when required it seems that Leon, Bachar, Levkovitch, Stelmach, Spiegler, Young and probably Primo and Levin, are the settled "core" of the side but an attacking wing-half and goal-scoring winger and centre-forward would be welcomed!

The position in both Groups Two and Three remains as it was last noted in the January issue but a start has been made in Group Four with Portugal's big win at home against Turkey. This is, of course, one of the four-strong groups — Rumania and Czechoslovakia are the other two countries — that seem so much more competitive than the three-strong ones that do include countries weaker than any one of the four countries in other groups. Israel with Belgium and Bulgaria I have already mentioned but there is also Group Two with Sweden, West Germany—and Cyprus; and there was Group Nine with Spain, the Republic of Ireland and Syria. Now Syria have withdrawn so that whereas Spain, or the Republic of Ireland, can book their passage to the final sixteen as the result of but two matches, Italy and Scotland (with Poland and Finland also intervening) have to face the hefty Group Eight programme, and Portugal, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Turkey that of Group Four. The Czechs, as noted in South American Commentary, are not being idle during their domestic winter break; the Rumanians gained considerable experience on their way to fifth place in the Olympics; and Portugal and Turkey have kicked off in the Group.

The match itself was lost by the Turks before it began. They seem to have been confident at first that the Viennese club, F.C. Austria, would have released goalkeeper Arkov Ozcan for the match, and when these hopes proved false the Turks, never confident players away from home, appeared to anticipate defeat. It may be a different story in April when they entertain the Portuguese, and particularly as the latter are themselves less impressive away from Portugal. That, however, is less true than it was a few years ago. The change has come about through the emergence of Benfica as one of the major clubs in Europe and I have no doubt that if, in their European Champions Cup matches in February and March, Benfica beat Real Madrid, the confidence of the national team will immediately increase.

★

**Black Panther Strikes**

**The Black Panther as he is known in Portugal is Eusebio who was the chief danger to Turkey in their recent World Cup preliminary match. His hat-trick was a brilliant affair. Back on form in League football, too, he is chasing the individual scoring record in Portuguese football. (Metelmann 2.)**

★

### Support

This is not to seek to minimise either the ease with which Portugal beat Turkey by five goals to one nor the potential of the Portugal side. After all there seems considerable support for the view that Spain were the Number One in Europe in last year's International matches — and Portugal, as recently as mid-November, were the only country to beat Spain.

Against Turkey two of the best-known of Benfica's defenders (both of whom had played in the victory over Spain) were missing from Portugal's line-up —Germano and Cruz, but the national team overall was strengthened probably by the return of Festa to right-back and Simeos on the left wing—and by the introduction of Graca of the Vitoria de Setubal club who had played in the "B" International against Spain, staged coincident with the "A" match in November.

This player on his Full International début attracted considerable attention and seems certain to be one about whom we will hear more in the next twelve months. He scored one of Portugal's goals. Coluna also scored one but it was, inevitably one feels, left to Eusebio to take the scoring honours with a hat-trick. There was a brief period when it appeared as though Eusebio had lost some of his final incisiveness but this season he has been back to his finest scoring form. He got both goals against Spain and in Portuguese League football he is chasing after the record set up in 1946–47 by Peyroteo of Sporting.

No further matches have been played in Group Five but the Netherlands kept in trim for their mid-March visit to N. Ireland with their match against Israel that underlined what we already knew—that the Netherlands' defence is good but that goals are still rare. The team, including Israel!, was substantially the same as that which played against England in December. Bergholtz was back at outside-right but Nuninga who had been thus deposed was a late change for the injured Bouwmeester at inside-left. Linkman Piet Fransen scored the only goal of the match in the first half. In the second half Guus Haag substituted for Fransen and Mick Clavan for Nuninga.

● *Continued overleaf*

# Some International Results and Line-ups

**DECEMBER 2**

**Belgium** (1) **3** (Vermeyen 2, Van Himst)
**France** (0) **0**

**Belgium:** Nicolay; Heylens, Verbiest, Plaskie, Cornelis; G. Sulon, Jurion; Vermeyen, Van Himst, Vandenberg, Puis.

**France:** Aubour; Bosquier, Artelesa, Charles-Alfred, Chorda; Bonnel, Ferrier; Lech, Guy, Baraffe, Sauvage.

**DECEMBER 9**

**Holland** (0) **1** (Moulijn)
**England** (0) **1** (Greaves)

**Holland:** Graafland; Flinkevleugel, Veldhoen; Israel, Schrijvers, Fransen; Nuninga, Muller, Van Nee, Bouwmeester, Moulijn.

**England:** Waiters; Cohen, Thomson; Mullery, Norman, Flowers; Thompson, Greaves, Wignall, Venables, Charlton.

**JANUARY 2**

**Uruguay** (0) **0**
**East Germany** (0) **2** (Frenzel, Ducke)

**Uruguay:** Taibo; Baeza, Diaz; Gonzalez, Gil, Mendez; Abbadie, Rocha, Sasia, Silva, Joya.

**East Germany:** Weigang; Frassdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Walter, Korner; Nachtigall (Frenzel), Noldner, Peter Ducke, Erler, Vogel.

**JANUARY 24**

**Portugal** (2) **5** (Eusebio 3, Coluna, Graca)
**Turkey** (1) **1** (Fevzi)

**Portugal:** Costa Pereira; Festa, Gomes; Arcanjo, Jose Carlos, Coluna; Jose Augusto, Eusebio, Torres, Graca, Simoes.

**Turkey:** Varol; Sukru, Ismail; Ercan, Sabahattin, Feren; Ihnaz, Yavuz, Metin, Fevzi, Aydin.

## INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

● *Continued from previous page*

No matches have been played in Groups Six, Seven, Eight and Nine—the latter, as I have mentioned, now a two-horse race between Spain and the Republic of Ireland. And so to look briefly at the remaining, the non-European, groups.

**Group 11**

6.6.65 Peru v. Uruguay—Lima
13.6.65 Uruguay v. Peru—Montevideo
16.5.65 Peru v. Venezuela—Lima
2.6.65 Venezuela v. Peru—Caracas
23.5.65 Uruguay v. Venezuela —Montevideo
30.5.65 Venezuela v. Uruguay—Caracas

**Group 12**

20.7.65 Colombia v. Ecuador
23.7.65 Ecuador v. Colombia
1.8.65 Chile v. Colombia
7.8.65 Colombia v. Chile
15.8.65 Ecuador v. Chile
23.8.65 Chile v. Ecuador

**Group 13**

25.7.65 Paraguay v. Bolivia—Asuncion
1.8.65 Argentina v. Paraguay —Buenos Aires
8.8.65 Paraguay v. Argentina —Asuncion
17.8.65 Argentina v. Bolivia —Buenos Aires
22.8.65 Bolivia v. Paraguay—La Paz
29.8.65 Bolivia v. Argentina—La Paz

Groups Ten and Fourteen are reserved for the exempted pair, England and Brazil, whilst the various African sub-groups of Group 16 have vanished with the mass withdrawal of the African nations. What remains of that Group (with South Africa currently suspended from F.I.F.A.) is the sub-group consisting of Australia, South Korea and North Korea but there is considerable difficulty in finding a venue for the matches. One suggestion is for a tournament to be staged in Japan.

### Divided

The only group I have not mentioned therefore is 15. This covers North and Central America and is divided into three sub-groups. The winners of each sub-group will themselves contest for the one reserved ticket to England. Trinidad, Costa Rica and Surinam will be starting their programme as this issue appears on sale with the final match of the six, between Surinam and Trinidad, scheduled for March 14. Honduras and Mexico kick off in a second sub-group on the last day of February, and the U.S.A. and Honduras conclude the matches on March 21. The third group will have completed their matches by the time you are reading this. Three countries in the group: Cuba, Jamaica and the Netherlands Antilles and the six matches have been staged in Kingston and in Havana.

In Kingston the home country, Jamaica, put themselves in a strong position by beating both Cuba and Netherlands Antilles—by the same score of two goals to nil, whilst Cuba and the Netherlands Antilles drew their match. Then all three national teams moved to Cuba where in the first match, Cuba were beaten one-nil by the Netherland Antilles and thus, with one point and one match to play, Cuba had lost their last chance of qualification. It is still possible, however, for the Netherlands Antilles to overtake Jamaica if they win their remaining match and Jamaica lose to Cuba. Position at the time of writing:

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jamaica | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Neth. Antil. | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Cuba | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 |

Israeli defenders including goalkeeper Chodorov in action. The latter was absent from the national side in their recent match with Holland. (A.P.I.)

## Top three clubs in Europe . . .

**WEST GERMANY**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Werder Bremen | 21 | 28 |
| Cologne | 21 | 26 |
| Nuremberg | 21 | 26 |

**BELGIUM**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Anderlecht | 21 | 38 |
| Standard | 20 | 30 |
| Beerschot | 20 | 24 |

**SPAIN**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Atletico Madrid | 22 | 34 |
| Real Madrid | 22 | 33 |
| Real Zaragoza | 22 | 30 |

**ITALY**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Milan AC | 21 | 35 |
| Internazionale | 21 | 30 |
| Juventus | 21 | 27 |

**PORTUGAL**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Benfica | 17 | 27 |
| Academica | 17 | 25 |
| CUF | 17 | 24 |

**ENGLAND**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Chelsea | 29 | 44 |
| Leeds | 30 | 44 |
| Manchester United | 29 | 41 |

**LUXEMBURG**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Union Luxembourg | 16 | 24 |
| Jeunesse Esch | 16 | 21 |
| Stade Dudelange | 16 | 21 |

**FRANCE**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Valenciennes | 22 | 27 |
| Bordeaux | 22 | 27 |
| Nantes | 22 | 25 |

**SCOTLAND**

| | Pld. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|
| Hearts | 25 | 37 |
| Hibs | 24 | 35 |
| Kilmarnock | 25 | 35 |




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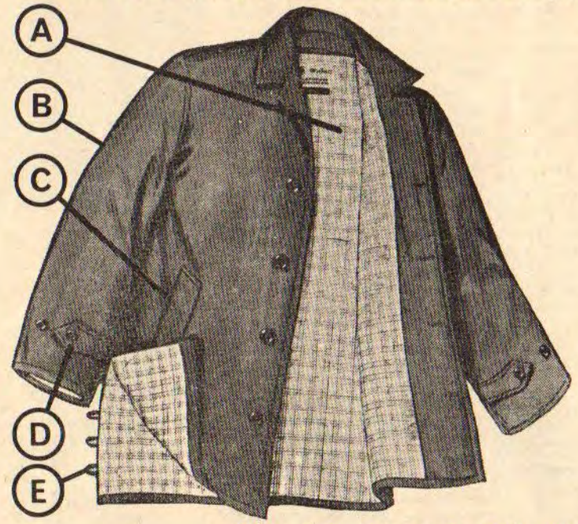


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# DRAMA PLAYED OUT AT NOTTINGHAM COURT

English Review by Leslie Page

**THE biggest drama of English football in the past few years was not played out at one of our leading grounds, but at Nottingham Assizes in January when ten professional and former professional players were found guilty of conspiracy to defraud by "fixing" matches and were all sent to prison. Former Mansfield Town forward, Jimmy Gauld, stated to be the centre of the case, was sent to prison for four years and ordered to pay £5,000 costs. He had previously sold details of his activities to a Sunday newspaper and received a sum of £7,000. Two other men received sentences of fifteen months, another nine months; three were given six months and three four months.**

It was three years before the law caught up with Gauld when three Bristol Rovers' players were suspended. Following this, Gauld was fined and later decided to "tell all" in a series of newspaper articles the evidence for which was later presented to the Director of Public Prosecutions. More than sixty footballers were interviewed by detectives during their investigations which led to the prosecutions and trial.

## Included

All the mystery of tape recordings taken in motor cars was included in this drama which ended months and years of underground talk about which no one was prepared to comment hardly knowing what investigations were being carried on and how far they had reached. If the footballers have shouldered the brunt of the affairs there was evidence that bookmakers had played a leading part in the "fixings" knowing in advance the results that were to be tampered with and refusing to accept further bets.

This whole shabby business which all sounded very un-British, resulted in a number of well-known names disappearing from the soccer scene, including former England centre-half, Peter Swan, Tony Kay whom Everton purchased for £56,000, David "Bronco" Layne and Dick Beattie, a former Scottish international goalkeeper.

Now that the whole thing is out in the open the Football Association have stated that they intend to call for transcripts of the court proceedings before considering their next move. If comment is needed one of the questions to be posed either to the F.A. or the League would ask how the records stand in relation to matches which are now known not to have been played to their natural conclusions. What is done is done and promotion or relegation which might have rested with these games cannot now be amended. Just the same it is as well to know where the record enthusiast stands in the matter.

## Corruption

Strangely the end of the trial came as something of an anti-climax. Something was rotten, that much was known. The extent of the corruption and those involved was not. Now is the time to consider why these men were tempted to tamper with results. Financial gain is the only answer and originally these men will have fallen under the spell during the time that it is now known that football players were underpaid. To that extent our administrative bodies have to share the blame, although the temptation might have faced others in the past and they had resisted it. There are few excuses that can be made for these men and only sadness that what has happened elsewhere should have spread to the United Kingdom. I doubt if this is to be the end of the affair, but for the moment the matter rests ... a dark scar across our sporting life.

Freddie Cox, manager of Gillingham, has been asked by the F.A. to discontinue his touchline coaching.

As the subject of money and spheres of influence is very close to our hearts these days let us commend the Football Association and the Scottish F.A. for accepting an offer of £75,000 a year from the Pools Promoters Association for the use of their fixtures. In view of the fact that the F.A. expect to show a loss of £40,000 this year it is hardly necessary to add that the cash will be more than useful.

It does not seem all those years ago that the gentlemen who run the Pools failed to do business with our authorities because we then lived in a world where it was imagined that the game was the thing and that money did not matter. Times have changed whether we like it or not and the cash received for the fixtures will form a substantial part of the F.A.'s income. When Mr. Denis Howell, the new Minister of Sport in all but name, comes to consider professional sport, he might think that there is a case for bleeding off still more money from betting to support soccer in the same way in which racing benefits under the Betting Levy Tax.

## Present

It is useless for professional football clubs in the United Kingdom to think that they can continue in their present state for very much longer and the F.A. would dearly love a donation from some official body to help them stage the World Cup Finals here next year. Time so far as soccer is concerned, is running out and the sooner a decision is made the better.

A number of momentous decisions have to be taken in the next few months with the Football League again pleading with their members to take more than a fleeting look at the Five Divisions and four up and four down plan. There is little basic difference to the scheme which was turned aside at the last time of asking and the facts of the matter are that the clubs realise that something must be done to make the game more economical, but they are afraid to take the plunge. This is understandable for no one can say with conviction that an enlarged League will improve the situation and any plan for regionalisation amongst the smaller clubs has been mysteriously avoided.

Malcolm McDonald, ex-Brentford manager, who wanted to lead the "Bees" into Division Two.

Hope continued to spring eternal in our endeavours against clubs from outside these islands even though Cardiff, after a strong run, lost interest in the European Cup Winners' Cup at the hands of Zaragoza. West Ham United remained in the competition ready to face Lausanne this month at home and away. The return of Bobby Moore would be the biggest boost the side could have at the moment following their defeat by Chelsea in the F.A. Cup and the return of the trophy from Upton Park to F.A. Headquarters at Lancaster Gate.



The F.A. stood by ready to stage the Final of the competition at Wembley in May and nothing would be better for the attendance than the appearance of a British team. The crowd figures should at least be an improvement upon those for the Final European Champion's Cup when it was played at Wembley two years ago and only around 35,000 could find the time to see a match that many will recall with pleasure for years to come.

To know that football's problems were at least mentioned in the House of Commons is to know that our pleadings for some time have not fallen on deaf ears. Mr. Howell announced that he would discuss the game's problems with a number of authorities before deciding what form an inquiry should take and doubtless he will hear some very strange stories. It is in no way certain that an enquiry will help to solve outstanding problems, but it would be a harsh critic who did not, at least, sleep a little more soundly in the knowledge that football in the land was to come under an official microscope.

## Sound

There will be time in future articles to suggest some of the moves that could well take place in order to get football back on to a sound footing. To my mind the best advertisement the game could have would be a grandstand staging of the World Cup Finals and on this point Mr. Howell has said that consideration will be given to the problem when the extent of it is known. To this end, the Labour Minister, who is officially Under-Secretary for Education, proposes to visit all the grounds concerned himself to examine the situation at first hand. This is an extremely sensible move and this former referee must be congratulated on his attitude to the affair. Let it be hoped that he will decide in favour of recommending a grant from public funds for a sport which has given so much to the nation in the past and can do so again in the future. It could hardly have been expected that Mr. Howell would do more than he has suggested and so long as the respective football bodies co-operate there is no reason to believe that compromise and sensibility will not rule the day.

During all these momentous affairs our eyes should not be averted from the playing arena where Division One continued to lie in the hand of Chelsea, Manchester United and Leeds United. Chelsea gave their coach Dave Sexton to Leyton Orient and John Mortimore, still an active first team performer, was appointed in his place. These are days of considerable planning at Stamford Bridge where Tommy Docherty has taken a very strong position indeed jumping into the forefront of League managers in a very short time.

Arsenal, once again, suffered at the hand of a lesser club in the F.A. Cup being swept out of the competition by Peterborough which could have done little for the Highbury club's confidence. Not to allow their manager to become the scapegoat, the Arsenal Board offered Billy Wright a new contract which at least silenced wagging tongues. Liverpool made up for a bad start and began playing well just at the right time, but the Midland clubs looked to be in distress. Wolverhampton could not pull themselves away from the bottom rung where they remained week after week with Aston Villa and Birmingham also in dire straits. Sunderland, parting with Johnny Crossan, a member of their promotion side, needed every point they could gather to get away from trouble.

Fulham brought back forty-nine-year-old Vic Buckingham to British soccer when they appointed him manager. Buckingham, a former Spurs player, managed Bradford, took West Bromwich to Wembley in 1953 and resigned in 1959. After spending two years with Ajax, he returned to England to manage Sheffield Wednesday. After he was dismissed from that post he returned to Ajax from which club Tommy Trinder persuaded him to take command at Craven Cottage.

## Capable

Joe Harvey's Newcastle, along with Dave Bowen's Northampton, continued to rule the roost in Division Two with some competition expected from Norwich City and Bolton Wanderers. None of the Division Two men looked particularly capable of standing up to the rigours of the upper echelon. Certainly none appeared as strong as Sunderland at this stage last season and a glance at Sunderland's current record is evidence that it is indeed tough at the top.

Dave Sexton (left), pictured with Leyton Orient trainer Les Gore, has left the safety of Chelsea to help the 'Os miss the drop. (Keystone 1.)

Coventry tried mightily to improve the social image of football and nicely held their own on the field of play.

Charlton faced the strange problem of selling Cliff Durandt's contract back to his mother who wanted him to return to South Africa to help run the family business. After a little haggling the deal was completed. Swansea managed to make progress in the F.A. Cup but were badly placed in the League as were Leyton Orient, under their new manager and Portsmouth for whom Jimmy Dickinson performed his 750th League game.

## Grateful

Hull City's £160,000 forward line took them to the head of Division Three with Cliff Britton grateful for the cash that had been pumped into the club. Gillingham, last season's Division Four Champs, looked good material for further honours with Bristol Rovers, Brentford and Carlisle well in the running. Whether Gillingham manager, Freddie Cox, coaches from the line or not, his side have swept through the section in calm and commanding style and without many fanfares. The F.A. have asked Mr. Cox to refrain from doing so.

Brentford manager, Malcolm McDonald, announced that he would be leaving the club to join Kilmarnock on July 1, but hoped to lead his team to promotion before this. A Celtic player for fifteen years, the fifty-one-year-old McDonald had been a player and secretary-manager of Kilmarnock previously. The Brentford Board, however, put McDonald on paid leave and placed the team in the hands of Tommy Cavanagh, the trainer-coach, promising him the managership if the club made the leap into Division Two. Brentford's £100,000 spending on players in the last few seasons ought by this time to be bearing fruit, thought the directors.

If referees are still accused of "getting at" players then the turnabout story of the month concerns Johne Cooke, a Football League referee for the past six seasons. He quit the League after accusations by clubs in their reports that he lacked interest. Cooke said he would continue to referee minor games. It was the Fourth Round of the F.A. Cup before a player was sent off in the competition this season and there was something of an abatement in "on the field" squabbles. For how long this would continue was any man's guess. It is doubtful if this aspect of the game is likely to concern Mr. Howell when he gets down to his task of investigation, although there would be much he could contribute.

The idea of a former referee in such a position of power would have been hard to envisage a few months ago. Whether the clubs will still be shouting, "Salvation is at hand", at the end of it all is another matter.

## EAST AFRICAN SAFARI

by NORMAN D. REICH

# THEIR REFRESHING INNOCENCE

**A HUSHED Dulwich Hamlet crowd gaped, and rubbed its eyes. The visiting Uganda Police side were just taking the field in the early 'fifties to meet the local amateurs ... and they were barefooted!**

The story was told that the Africans were unable to adjust themselves to playing in boots and permission was granted for them to appear without them.

That concession was worthwhile, for the tourists charmed all and sundry with their delightful display of wonderful ball-control. They won the match, too, and set many a tongue wagging in praise.

That was East Africa's first soccer venture abroad. In 1956, Uganda came back, this time with her blue-and-white shirted national side. They wound up a highly successful tour of the U.K. with an international at Ilford against England's Olympic hopes.

### Merited

They took their time in settling down to the big occasion and turned a goal interval deficit into a well-merited 2-1 win, taunting and flummoxing the Englishmen in the process.

Three years later, they were off to Southern Rhodesia to appear in an international as part of the Central African Trade Fair in Bulawayo. Again, Uganda demonstrated her mettle, thrashing the Rhodesians 7-2.

**UGANDA — BROUGHT UP-TO-DATE**

| | HOME P | W | D | L | F | A | AWAY P | W | D | L | F | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Burundi | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 27 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 21 | 5 |
| *England | 1 | | — | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Ethiopia | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ghana | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 | — | | | | | |
| Kenya | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 8 | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 16 | 16 |
| Malawi | | | — | | | | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| Mauritius | | | — | | | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Ruanda | | | — | | | | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 2 |
| Somalia | | | — | | | | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| S. Rhodesia | | | — | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 2 |
| Tanganyika | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 11 |
| U.A.R. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Zanzibar | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 22 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 18 | 10 |
| Zambia | | | — | | | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |

**NEUTRAL**

| | P | W | D | L | F | A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ghana | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Kenya | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| U.A.R. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

*—match against England Olympic trialists.

On each of these three occasions, they have surprised their hosts with deft, attractive attacking soccer.

It is a pity that Uganda—and indeed the whole of East Africa—have appeared away from home on so few occasions, for their style of play is a refreshing opposite from the current defensive trends sweeping world football today.

East African soccer is divided between seven countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Ruanda, Burundi and Pemba. Tanganyika and Zanzibar have now merged, and Pemba rarely make a football appearance these days.

In 1927, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar organised the first Gossage Cup competition. Since then, it has been held annually, deciding the East African champions. Uganda have been far and away the most successful, having lifted the crown twenty-two times with Kenya next in line. They have been champs nine times. Tanganyika have won the title four times and Zanzibar once.

Ruanda, Burundi and Pemba joined the entry in 1954, but have never looked like winners.

Although these states are extremely close, football-wise, their soccer is controlled by independent national associations. The Uganda Football Association, the Kenya Football Association and the Tanganyika Football Association are each independently members of F.I.F.A., the world body. The Zanzibar F.A. has recently merged with the Tanganyika F.A. into the Tanzania F.A. Ruanda and Burundi have indirect affiliation via attachment to the Belgian F.A., a state of affairs that is unlikely to last much longer. Pemba is now part of Zanzibar.

### Futures

The three "strong men" in East African soccer are the F.A. presidents of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, who meet often to map out their soccer futures. They are Serwano Wofunira Kulubya (Uganda), Juma Maggid (Tanganyika) and John Kasyoka.

Kenya's colours are blue and yellow; those of Tanganyika are green shirts with yellow trimmings and attractive green and yellow horizontally striped stockings.

Although Uganda have chalked up the most Gossage Cup victories, the competition usually finishes closely. The 1964 competition aptly illustrates this. Zanzibar shocked Uganda 3-2 in the first match and then drew with both Tanganyika and Ruanda, before losing to Kenya. Uganda beat Kenya 3-1, Tanganyika 6-0 and Ruanda 5-1 to take the trophy.

Both Kenya and Uganda entered the 1964 Olympic Games tournament. Uganda were paired with the United Arab Republic while Kenya had to contend with the nippy highland Ethiopians. The first meeting between Kenya and Ethiopia in Nairobi's Doonholm Road Ground almost ended in uproar, with the crowd in a rioting mood. Kenya warded off a tremendous Ethiopian come-back to just win 4-3. But in the second leg, they were well and truly outplayed, conceding six goals in the second half to sink out of the tournament, beaten 7-1 and 10-5 on aggregate.

### Surrendered

Uganda surrendered the initiative in their tie to the Egyptians after just half-an-hour of their match in Kampala. They conceded two goals and lost 3-1. Egypt lost a quick goal in the second leg to Uganda's inside-left, Matte in the second match in Alexandria but came quickly back to win 4-1.

Uganda's only other really serious challenge in international soccer was in the 1962 series Africa Cup when she ousted the rest of East Africa and under her veteran captain of the time, right-half Sam Sebowe, converged on Addis Ababa as semi-finalists. They were beaten by the eventual losing finalists, Egypt, 2-1.

As each of the countries have matured to independence, they have staged "coming-of-age" soccer parties, inviting others round to join in the festivities. Uganda called in Kenya and Ghana, Tanganyika, Sudan and Zanzibar while Kenya went further afield and invited out Queens Park of Scotland as well as the Sudan.

Queens Park were so impressed with the reception they received and the obvious good the trip did for their players that they accepted an invitation to return last year to participate in a tourney involving Uganda, Ethiopia, Mauritius and the hosts.

There was another recent contact with British football when the Middlesex Wanderers side toured East Africa and Mauritius in 1963. They also brought a top referee and coach to pass on the finer points to the locals. Already, this move is paying off. Kenya's Joseph Awanda is an international referee on the

● Continued on page 43

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# SCANDINAVIAN INFLUX HAS STIMULATING REACTION

**ALL Scotland, as I write, has been thrown into a state of Scandinavian chaos. To have or not to have: that is the question that seems to be upsetting the F.A. and Football League, the Scottish Players' Union and, not least by any means, the Ministry of Labour.**

Or rather, just how many to have!

How many what? How many Scandinavian soccer stars to allow into Scottish football, presumably with the position of Scotland's home-produced footballers at stake.

It is an intriguing situation, not simply for Scottish soccer but for the British game in general. There can be no doubt that Morton—the instigators (villains or genii depending on your side of the argument) of the scheme to import Scandinavian soccer stars to Scotland — have really set a trend.

Their example, or was it the success they enjoyed as the result of their foreigners' skills, set Dundee United, Hearts and Aberdeen scurrying in pursuit of similar acquisitions.

In no time at all, the number of Danes, Swedes and Norwegians together totalled twelve. That, as I write, is what has set the Ministry of Labour, and the Scottish Players' Union worrying.

### Safely

Indeed, Aberdeen manager Mr. Tommy Pearson wore a worried frown for days before he saw safely into Scotland his three Danish stars, Lief Mortensen, an outside-left from Copenhagen, centre-forward Jorgen Ravn from the same club, and Jens Petersen, yet another of these Great Danes which Morton have found a revitalising attribute.

The Ministry of Labour refused to allow the Aberdeen trio to turn out for the Dons until applications for work permits had been secured.

Came a lot of conjecture about the harm these foreign stars could have on the Scottish game.

There was the suggestion that the continued influx of the Viking-line amateurs from Scandinavia would throw home-bred players out of work.

To that may I say simply: *rubbish!*

Has there ever been an attempt by the Players' Union in England to stop the constant flow of soccer talent from north of the border?

For years, the best of Scotland's stars, with the exception of those with only the biggest clubs, have been lured away to England, where wages are higher, the chances of improvement are greater, and crowds, without question, are bigger.

**By JOHN STONE**

Now, when the greatest spark of brilliance to hit our game for years is beginning to pay financial dividends through the turnstiles, there are whispers afoot to have the Scandinavian soccer brain-drain halted.

Nobody can deny that all Scotland has welcomed the Scandinavians who have reached our shores. Indeed, Morton supporters will any day now, I am quite convinced, nominate inside-forward Jorn Sorensen for the Provostship of Greenock—similar, although smaller in stature, to the Lord Mayor of London.

### Rave

Hearts supporters rave in the clubs, pubs and bars of Edinburgh's Tynecastle area of Norwegian winger Roal Jensen, and Dundee United supporters, quick to notice that manager Gerry Kerr has been missing from Tannadice Park for a few days, are unanimous in their hope: that he has gone on another Scandinavian soccer signing safari.

Everywhere these foreign amateur stars have come, and I use the expression "stars" with no reservations, support for their club has swelled.

Indeed, talking to some Kilmarnock and Falkirk supporters recently, their grouse was simple. "Why can't we have some of these players, too?"

### Out of work

Nobody wants to see our own players done out of work.

But are twelve softly-spoken Scandinavians going to do that? I doubt it. After all, twelve of these foreign footballers spread over thirty-seven clubs, averages out at less than *one third of a Scandinavian to each Scottish club.*

The average of Scottish players to each of England's ninety-two League sides will, I venture to suggest with no fears of contradiction, be many times greater.

These players must be disturbed by so much talk of banning their fellow countrymen anxious to leave behind the amateur status of their own land to become professional entertainers in the Scottish game.

I would suggest, and suggest strongly, that the time to start worrying is when a percentage of, say, three or four of these players are receiving top wages from *all* of our clubs.

### Thrilled

The time to really start worrying will be when all of these fellows have thrilled Scottish crowds for two seasons.

That is when English clubs, unable at present by F.A. rule to sign them for themselves, will be able to step in and bid for their transfers.

**A Provost Soon?**

★

**John Stone considers that the Scandinavian influence on present day Scottish football is a good one for the game. Pictured above is Morton's Danish inside-forward Jorn Sorensen who was signed earlier in the season from the French club Metz. So popular is he at Greenock that it would not be surprising if the locals elected him Provost! (M.P.)**

Incident during the match between the striped shirted Turkish team Galatasaray and the Rumanian side Dynamo Bucharest during the 1962-63 European Cup. Galatasaray won this second leg game 3-0 in Istanbul having drawn the first 1-1. (Keystone.)

**EUROPEAN COMMENTARY**

# AFTER THE PAUSE IS OVER

**by GORDON JEFFERY**

**THIS is the quiet time for European football. International matches are few and far between in the first quarter of each year, and although the important quarter-final matches are being played in the club competitions in Europe these too spread over the whole period from early January to the end of March. The reason for this is climatic, of course — and the national league campaigns also reflect the consequences of the winter weather; with some national variations.**

Generally the countries of Western Europe, like France, Italy, Spain and West Germany for example, follow the same pattern as England and Scotland with the league season running without a break from early autumn until the beginning of May with the halfway stage being reached at around Christmas. There are differences in the organisation of the league season in those countries that are now having their mid-winter break from football. The Scandinavian countries have completed their season and will resume competitive football in March and April with the first half of a new league season. They then have a further short break at the peak of summer before playing the second half in the autumn. The Soviet countries (with some exceptions nowadays) vary the pattern by starting their league season in the late summer and reaching the halfway stage before they have their winter break. Countries like Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria will be continuing their national league championships when they resume playing in the spring; countries like Sweden, Norway and Denmark will be starting new championship seasons when they resume.

The pause in Eastern European league football does offer the chance for looking in more detail than we can usually afford at some of the countries about which in the normal run of news we learn least—and with the World Cup Qualifying competition geared to be completed this year we should be learning more about some of the possible visitors to England for the 1966 Final.

Not that I can really expect that Poland will be amongst them—they are competing in the most competitive of all the groups: Group 8 with Finland, Italy and Scotland, but the latter's matches against Poland (in May in Poland and in October in Scotland) heighten interest in current Polish football. The position in the Polish League when football closed down for the winter was:

| | P | F | A | Pts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gornik | 12 | 32 | 19 | 17 |
| Szombierki | 13 | 30 | 19 | 17 |
| Zaglebie | 13 | 24 | 18 | 16 |
| Pogon | 13 | 21 | 18 | 16 |
| Polonia | 12 | 27 | 12 | 15 |
| Gwardia | 13 | 18 | 17 | 15 |
| Legia | 13 | 31 | 15 | 14 |
| Zawisza | 13 | 19 | 25 | 12 |
| Odra | 13 | 14 | 22 | 12 |
| Stal | 13 | 14 | 20 | 10 |
| Slask Wroclaw | 13 | 17 | 25 | 10 |
| LKS | 13 | 12 | 20 | 10 |
| Ruch | 13 | 16 | 28 | 9 |
| Unia | 13 | 17 | 34 | 7 |

Even allowing that Gornik, last season's champions, have a match in hand against Polonia (a consequence of Gornik's long-drawn-out First Round European Champions Cup tie against Dukla when the Polish club were eventually only eliminated by the toss of the coin), this is a very closely-contested league championship campaign with every one of the seven clubs in the top half of the table entitled to start the second half of the season with hopes of winning the championship by the end. In the lower half of the table are the two clubs promoted from the Second Division, Zawisza and Slask Wroclaw but the former in particular have made a creditable showing and should have little difficulty in staying in the top division. Slask may have to struggle harder because it is unlikely that the Chorzow club Ruch will readily be content to stay in one or other of the bottom two places—not with players like Nieroba, Lysko and Faber in their team.

Indicative of the closeness of the campaign were the results of some of the last two matches played by the leading clubs before the break. Prior to these matches Gornik and Polonia were the joint leaders with fifteen points whilst Pogon and Szombierki had fourteen and Zaglebie, Gwardia and Odra twelve. Szombierki and Zaglebie had easy-looking home matches against the bottom-placed pair, Ruch and Unia respectively, but, although Zaglebie won by the odd goal in three, Szombierki dropped a point in a two-all draw. Gwardia beat Zawisza 2-1 and meanwhile the other four leading clubs found themselves in opposition and—further indication of the parity of quality—both matches ended with the same score (1-0), with Pogon, at home, beating Polonia and Gornik winning away to Odra at Opole. Then, in the last matches, six of the leading clubs found themselves matched. Polonia lost again, this time to Zaglebie (1-2); Polonia's victors of the previous week, Pogon, were now themselves beaten heavily by four goals to nil by Legia—and, most surprising, Gornik lost at home to Szombierki by the odd goal in five. The score at half-time had been one-all with centre-forward Szoltysik having opened the scoring for Gornik in the twenty-sixth minute and Wilim I equalising for Szombierki eight minutes later. Pol put Gornik in front half-way through the second period. Then, in the eighty-first and eighty-fourth minutes outside-right Knop scored twice to give Szombierki the victory that has left the Polish championship wide open for the spring matches.

Pol's goal incidentally brought his tally for the season to date to eleven but the leading scorer remains Legia's Brychczy with twelve goals although he scored only one of the four by which Legia beat Pogon four-nil. Legia's other three goals were all scored by Jack Gmoch—and he is their centre-half! Gmoch is also incidentally one of the seventeen players provisionally selected as the national Polish squad for 1965. The full list is Kornek and Szymkowiak (goalkeepers); Bazan, Gmoch, Orzechowski, Oslizlo and Szcepanski (defenders); Blaut, Grzegorczyk and Szoltysik (linkers); Banas, Brychczy, Kowalik, Liberda, Lubanski, Musialiek and Pol (forwards).



Rumania's first half of the league season was upset by the national side's appearance in the final stages of the Olympics in Tokyo and their champion club, Dynamo's, appearances in the European Champions Cup. There are fourteen clubs in the Rumanian First Division and each club should thus have played the others once (thirteen matches apiece) by the break. This was eventually accomplished but only after a hectic programme of matches during November and December for Dynamo Bucarest, Rapid and the Cup-winners Cup entrants (actually the beaten finalists in the Rumanian Cup), Steaua (sometimes listed as Etoile and with French the "second" language of Rumania, I suppose it might be reasonable for us to accept the translation!).

After the return from the Olympics in Tokyo of the Rumanian national team (winners over Mexico, Iran, Ghana and Yugoslavia and beaten only by the Hungarians), Dynamo played their *third* match in the national league championship—and, with several of their players obviously tired and jaded, lost to Brasov by three goals to one. At this stage, Jassy led the table with eleven points from nine matches, and four clubs shared second place with nine points, Cluj and Constantza from eight matches, Ploesti and Oradea from nine matches. Dynamo and Rapid, who had also only played three matches, shared bottom place with four points. Rapid, incidentally, had also lost their post-Tokyo match by the only goal of their match against one of the promoted clubs, Craiova.

Bulgarian international goalkeeper Giorgiu Naidenov who plays for CDNA Sofia who recently changed their name to Red Banner. (Metelmann.)

### Impeding

Dynamo now had Second Round European Champions Cup matches to play against Internazionale Milan, and with this impeding their hopes of playing postponed matches, the position at the end of November, when a majority of clubs had played twelve of their first-half programme of thirteen matches, was that Dynamo had still played only six matches. Their points tallied eight and although their position was a shared one step off the bottom, they were in fact only six points behind the leaders, Jassy. Jassy's flattering position at the top was soon to be ended. Steaua with thirteen points from seven matches—still unbeaten, of course, had moved into second place, and Rapid (ten points from seven matches) were climbing. Dynamo, Rapid and Steaua all played postponed matches whilst the bulk of the clubs "rested". The former pair won their matches: Steaua only drew but that single point was enough to put them above Jassy on goal average.

Dynamo meantime had been beaten by Inter in the Champions Cup and had the late chance of catching up on lost fixtures. Even so when six of the fourteen clubs had completed their first-half fixtures, Dynamo (lying sixth) had still played only eight matches. Steaua (still unbeaten) and Rapid who filled the first two places had played nine and ten matches respectively Winter snow had come to Bucarest and it was past the time when football strip should have been put aside but in a final hectic spell this very useful Dynamo side beat Progressul (4-0), Rapid (3-1) and Steaua (1-0). The latter pair were possibly also feeling the strain of many matches in tough conditions and their own meeting resulted in a goalless match whilst Brasov beat Steaua by one goal to nil—balancing their account with Dynamo. The end of the first half of the season thus saw the Rumanian First Division as follows:

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dynamo | 13 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 28 | 12 | 20 |
| Steaua | 13 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 21 | 8 | 18 |
| Rapid | 13 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 10 | 17 |
| Jassy | 13 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 18 | 14 |
| Brasov | 13 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 18 | 14 |
| Ploesti | 13 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 16 | 13 | 13 |
| Constantza | 13 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 14 | 17 | 13 |
| Cluj | 13 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 21 | 18 | 12 |
| Oradea | 13 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 12 | 12 |
| Arad | 13 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 21 | 12 |
| Pitesti | 13 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 16 | 20 | 11 |
| Craiova | 13 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 11 | 22 | 11 |
| Baia Mare | 13 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 24 | 8 |
| Progressul | 13 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 20 | 7 |

In Bulgaria, as in the neighbouring Rumania, it is the current champions who head the table at the half-way mark—the high-scoring (in the Champions Cup) Lokomotiv Sofia who, you may recall, won their opening match in this year's European Champions Cup against the Swedish club, Malmo FF, by eight goals to three. Loko Sofia then were beaten 2-0 in Sweden but were comfortably through to the Second Round where they were again in goals aplenty — losing 5-3 to Gyor Vasas in Hungary and then just failing to close the aggregate gap when they won themselves 4-3 in Sofia. They have not been quite so free-scoring in Bulgarian League matches but have actually notched twenty-eight goals in their fifteen matches, and conceded fourteen for a tidy 2.00 average. They are enjoying a three-point lead over the second club, Lokomotiv Plovdiv, but twice the latter have squandered possible chances of either taking the lead or of closing the gap.

It was not until their tenth match that Lokomotiv Sofia suffered their first League defeat of the season, by the only goal of their match against the club that had seemed for a decade unconquerable in Bulgaria, CDNA. But CDNA are no more—their name has been changed to Red Banner. Maybe that evocative title will help them revive old glories: certainly they avoided defeat in the last four matches they played under their new name even if they drew three of them.

### First defeat

They had nine points before their match (and victory) against Lokomotiv Sofia who had sixteen points. Loko Plovdiv had fifteen and could thus have moved to the top—except that they also lost their tenth match against the then lowly-placed Vratza. Beroe were third with thirteen points and they too were beaten—their first defeat of the season. The fourth placed club, Levski, also lost so the leaders before the eleventh matches were played were Loko Sofia (sixteen), Loko Plovdiv (fifteen), Beroe (thirteen), Red Banner (eleven) and Levski (eleven). The matches themselves resulted in a win for Loko Sofia (over Spartak Sofia), a draw between Loko Plovdiv and Beroe, a defeat of Red Banner by Slavia and a victory for Levski who thus came within a point of Beroe. Loko Sofia had, of course, increased their lead to two points. This advantage they maintained when they beat Levski 3-1. Loko Plovdiv also won but Beroe were defeated for the second time by the improving Vratza. Slavia had a good win over Spartak Sofia and slipped quietly into third place.

With three matches to the midway stage, Loko Sofia played a goalless match with the lowly-placed Spartak Plevin but again Loko Plovdiv failed to cash in

● *Continued on page 35*

***BRIAN GLANVILLE tries to find a rule for retirement . . .***

# WHEN SHOULD A STAR HANG UP HIS BOOTS?

## TWO OF SOCCER'S GREATEST MEET

**HOW sad and displeasing has been the Di Stefano–Bernabeu squabble. Affection turned to disesteem, dignity to petulance. And yet, underlying it all, is there not a pitifully familiar theme, that of the paradox of an athlete's career? The fact, that is to say, that the great footballer is passing his meridian at the very time the average man is entering his prime.**

For Alfredo Di Stefano, it has been a more bitter reality than for most, precisely because he has been so great a star, and because he has lasted so long. There are, I think, sound reasons for regarding Di Stefano as the finest footballer who ever lived, and Real as the greatest club team. And what, after all, would Real have been without him? If you look back to the early side which established its monopoly on the European Cup, there are surprisingly few names which still echo and resound. No Santamaria, no Puskas—he did not arrive till 1959. Kopa, yes, but not in the first European campaign of 1955–6 when, in fact, Kopa was very barely responsible for the Cup passing from Madrid, so brilliantly did he play against them in the Paris Final. (On the sound principle of if you can't beat them, join them, Real proceeded to sign him.) Gento was there, of course—how superbly Di Stefano was able to find him, even with a backheel, and his back turned—but it was essentially the team that Di Stefano built.

### Outclassed

Di Stefano's greatness has, I think, lain in three things: his technique, his versatility and his leadership. Stanley Matthews, who long outclassed him in terms of comparative age, was undeniably a superb outside-right, probably the best of all time, pace Meredith and Garrincha, but one could hardly call him versatile. He was an outside-right, and his own particular kind of outside-right, or he was nothing.

But Di Stefano was at once a spearhead and a midfield schemer, an artist and a dedicated labourer, quite capable of having a shot at goal one moment, and popping up to clear from his own penalty area, the next. Surely the cheapest of the silly allegations Santiago Bernabeu has thrown at him is that of being "afraid" to go into the penalty area. Puskas, said Santiago, in an outburst thoroughly unworthy of him, was ready to brave the penalty box. Di Stefano (shades of the Duke of Plaza Toro!) led his forces from behind.

Two of the world's outstanding performers waiting before the start of a friendly match between Stoke City and Real Madrid. Left is Stanley Matthews, right is Alfredo Di Stefano. (Central 2.)

Nonsense, of course; as the formidable list of goals scored by Di Stefano for Real clearly shows. But then the quarrel has reached a stage where acrimony takes precedence over good sense and logic. It would perhaps be worth summarising it briefly.

### Unfair

The trouble began—or, shall we say, broke surface—when Di Stefano was dropped for the Spanish Cup Final. This, Di Stefano maintains, was unfair, and would never have happened had Real not lost the European Cup Final in Vienna, to Inter. In other words, he suggests that he was being made the scapegoat.

He also says, and here seems to have a solid case, that Real haven't made good their promise of a jubilee match. And he adds various examples of Don Santiago's allegedly overbearing behaviour; the time, in Belgium, when he banished his goalkeeper, Alonzo, from the club for refusing to eat an egg; the time when, in Zurich, he rebuked his players because they didn't give him the salutation to which he felt he was entitled. Had he been as rich as Moratti, the Inter President, he cried, it would have been different.

### Spinal trouble

Bernabeu, aside from his cheap accusations of cowardice, has produced the Real Madrid doctor to say that Di Stefano has spinal trouble, and cannot have long in the game. (At the age of thirty-eight, it seems rather academic, in any case). He also cites various instances where he feels Di Stefano was lacking in respect.

The whole trouble, of course, is that Di Stefano has not known when to retire. There is a certain analogy, here, with the recent Cullis affair. Cullis, as a dominating and authoritarian manager, could afford to follow the pattern as long as he was successful. But success was the vital prerequisite. Without it, there could be no sanction for methods which often rubbed players the wrong way, and made directors feel secondary. So, with Di Stefano. He had been indisputably cock of the walk at Real, making life difficult for Kopa, and very hard indeed for poor Didì, a great player who had a season of humiliation and disuse when he went to Real, in 1959.

### Success

Those who live by the sword. . . . Again, Di Stefano's only justification must be success, and it was success maintained over an astonishingly long period. Indeed, his longevity has in a way been much more remarkable than Matthews's, or Billy Meredith's, who took part and starred in a semi-final, at the age of forty-nine. Wingers can take rests, are only intermittently involved in the game. Centre-forwards of Di Stefano's kind are perpetual motion incarnate.

### Humiliate

How hard it is, though, for the truly great player to hang up his boots. He knows too well that in one way, the rest of his life will be mere anticlimax. However successful he may be in the future as a manager, he is participating in this success only at second hand. The roar of the crowd, the adulation of the fans, go not to him but to the players. And so Di Stefano elected to play on; and so he was humiliated, joined a second line club, in Espanol, and has perhaps compromised his chances of a really good managerial position. For the time to go out, with this in view, is certainly when you are on top, leaving the fans with regrets.

● *Continued on page 31*



## SKILLED VETERANS ARE IN A MINORITY

# TEENAGERS RULE OUR SOCCER

**AS many people are aware, Jimmy Dickinson recently made his 750th appearance for Portsmouth in their game at Southampton. It is truly a wonderful achievement but I wonder how many of the current players just beginning their soccer careers will even provide a challenge to this record?**

It is not without some regret that "characters" such as Jimmy Dickinson are few and far between in the present game. This is certainly a case of much conjecture whether it is in fact good for the game in general.

As it is, the game in England has developed into a sport very much for the teenager. Gone, it appears, are the days of skilled veterans who often provided soccer fare of the highest quality.

There also appears little likelihood of a player like Leslie Compton, the former Arsenal centre-half, winning his first England cap at the age of thirty-seven.

While no one wishes to go to this extreme, it does appear to me that the game is reaching a very dangerous level in regard to age. Youthful vitality is essential to the game but the lack of experience is a commodity that clubs in general can ill afford not to possess.

Players "blooded" at an early age are going out of the upper reaches far quicker than their counterparts of a few years ago.

A case in question which gives a good indication of the trend are the recent transfers of such players as Trevor Smith from Birmingham City to Walsall and Albert Quixall from Manchester United to Oldham Athletic.

Both should be in their prime but they find that they have been pushed down the ladder by the general influx of young players.

It is a production line and clubs feel that they cannot clog up the workings by retaining a big playing staff with the large financial overheads caused by the big increases in wages.

Therefore, while the rich get richer, the poor get poorer and very few players can really say that they have derived a great deal of benefit from the wage structure.

On the other hand, it could well be a blessing in disguise Some players of limited ability are being pushed out of the game much quicker than in previous conditions and this enables them to discover a new and more lucrative environment.

Sheffield Wednesday's longest serving senior player is Alan Finney the winger who once formed a teenage partnership with Albert Quixall. (Prov. 1.)

But I certainly do not include the likes of Smith and Quixall in this group. During the 1950s they were among the most promising players in the country.

The soccer world lay at their feet. Quixall cost Manchester United a small fortune when they obtained his transfer from Sheffield Wednesday after a great deal of hard bargaining.

Wednesday, quite naturally, did not want to lose their most talented player, who had been appointed captain of the side at a very early age. His partnership with Alan Finney was the Northern club's greatest asset.

### Heights

While Finney remained at Hillsborough, Quixall decided to throw in his lot with the Old Trafford club. Quixall quickly tasted the giddy heights of success at Manchester United. Continental trips and Cup Final appearances were the order of the day but in such demanding surroundings the golden boy of British soccer began to flag and the pace became a little too hot.

Meanwhile, back at Hillsborough, Finney has maintained his place in the Wednesday team and still compares with the best wingers in the game today. Had Quixall remained with Wednesday no doubt he too would still be playing in the First Division instead of roughing it in the Third Division with Oldham.

This premature drop, as I indicated before, would hardly have occurred some fifteen years ago. But success is such a hard task master that Quixall has been forced to make way to the player in form.

Another Manchester United player in a similar predicament is Welsh international Graham Moore. He, too, cost a hefty fee, when signed from Chelsea, but cannot command a regular first team place.

No doubt he will be on the move in the not too distant future.

Smith is another example. A centre-half in the old days could be certain of holding on to his position for many seasons because as a purely defensive player he was not involved in so much of the political changes that periodically take place in any soccer club.

In normal circumstances he could have been England's World Cup choice but as a result of the revolution that has taken place in this country over the past ten years he finds himself very much out of the limelight.

The reason, which can be associated with the part of the story about Albert Quixall, can be traced to Manchester United and the Busby Babes. Players like the late Duncan Edwards and Eddie Colman were two of the brightest youngsters to emerge from Old Trafford which had previously been blessed with such experienced stalwarts as Johnny Carey, John Aston, Henry Cockburn, Jimmy Delaney, Jack Rowley and Charlie Mitten—to name but a few who delighted the soccer scene with their outstanding ability.

But Busby the gambler decided to trust his future status on youth and as any soccer scout will tell you this was a make or break step as young soccer players are even more unreliable than race-horses!

The plunge was made and since then many clubs have followed his example.

It does not, however, escape my notice that Spurs' success has been obtained by the opposite methods. At White Hart Lane manager Bill Nicholson believes in experience all the way and this explains his present team-building policy with such outstanding players as Alan Gilzean.

This is the exception rather than the rule. Like Everton and Liverpool, they are able to pay whatever price the market shows for any particular player.

Therefore the likes of Jimmy Dickinson and Stan Lynn, the Birmingham City full-back, who has earned a new lease of life since he moved across the city from Aston Villa, are becoming an extinct race in our national game. Whether it is good or bad only time will tell. A pointer could come from the 1966 World Cup.

★ **BRIAN MARSHALL**

# TORPEDO TOUR IS ONE BRIGHT SPOT

**AUSTRALIAN NEWS** **by ANDREW DETTRE**

**THE Australian clubs have soon started to get ready for their new season. Not with ecstatic hopes, I may add, for a fairly thick layer of gloom appears to envelop much of the Australian scene.**

This gloom stems from the fact that after years of spectacular advancement the game's progress has halted. Indeed, there are signs of recession in attendances as well as playing standards and nobody pretends to know just what to do to bring back the golden years of late 'fifties and early 'sixties.

Almost before a ball was kicked in the first training match, a major hitch occurred, threatening soccer's very existence. A number of clubs complained to the Australian Soccer Federation about Melbourne Slavia's "white slave trafficking". Slavia, they claimed, had been importing British players galore only to sell them to others at fees usually exceeding £1,000. To make things worse, they got the Britishers for nothing, these being in most cases free-transfer players.

Slavia officials pointed out that they had done nothing which others also had not been doing. And in this they are right. If anybody is guilty it is the Australian Federation and perhaps the British clubs which to this date have never sorted out the problem. Should these migrant players from Britain be tied to one particular club for a period or for ever? Should they remain "free" and allowed to change clubs in Australia without a transfer fee? Should their former British clubs benefit from any possible future transfers? Whichever the case, the law must be laid down by the ruling authorities, otherwise chaos and anarchy will prevail. It appears that chaos has prevailed.

Over the last few years literally dozens of free-transfer British players found their way to Australian clubs and then changed clubs. So far not one was allowed to move without a fee, the record being some £A2,000 for former Scottish Second Division star Jim Pearson when he moved from Melbourne to Sydney's Pan Hellenic.

### Problem

The newly-formed Players' Association in Sydney may help solve the problem in due course. Established at the instigation of mainly English players, this body hopes to regulate the so far unco-ordinated relationships between clubs and players regarding wages, bonus, contracts and signing-on fees which in Australia can be sizeable. Association president is Alan Hetherington, former Chelsea junior who also did service for Hull City and later Romford. Former Fulham inside-forward Mike Johnson is another leading light in the praesidium.

Meanwhile, the various State Associations are desperately trying to prepare for the visit of Moscow Torpedo, due to start at the end of February and scheduled to involve eight matches throughout Australia. The ever-keen administrators in Adelaide have long ago named their State squad for the matches while Perth officials have requested at least five guest players from Melbourne and Sydney to bolster up the chronically weak Western Australian side. However, neither Melbourne nor Sydney appear to be in a hurry and at the time of writing neither a squad nor a coach have been named.

However, it is likely that several former British players will gain places in both teams. In Sydney's team Matt Woods (Blackburn, now Hakoah), Pat Woods (Queen's Park and Colchester, now South Coast United), Jim Kelly (Blackpool, now South Coast), Roy Blitz (Fulham junior, now Prague), Trevor Edwards (Cardiff City, now Hakoah) and Brian Rhodes (West Ham, now South Coast) are all likely choices apart from two ex-Argentinians, Hugo Rodriguez (St. George-Budapest) and Luis Gauto (Prague), a former German, Les Scheinflug (Prague), Austrian Herbert Ninaus (Hakoah), Polish international Ginter Gawlik (Polonia) and ex-Red Star Belgrade stopper Mito Stojanovic (Yugal). This, on paper at least, looks a formidable team. The question is how will they stand up to the predictably continuous Torpedo onslaughts?

The Torpedo visit is creating tremendous interest even if part of it can be attributed to novelty value. This will be the first time any Soviet sportsmen will visit Australia since the 1956 Melbourne Olympics where, by the way, they won the soccer tournament. Let's hope this time they put up a better performance than in 1956 where the final against Yugoslavia almost degenerated into an all-out brawl. And that Soviet team was as strong as any they have ever fielded, including such stars as Yachin, Netto, Tatushin, Streltzov and others.

### Confusion

The Australian Federation regards the Torpedo tour as a tune-up to the country's World Cup bid. However, an incredible amount of confusion and contradiction makes it impossible to even forecast whether Australia will really play in the elimination series and against whom, where and when. Almost daily, different reports arrive either from London or from Zurich, regarding the withdrawal of the African countries and the changing of venues and opponents. At present it is believed that Australia's remaining opponents in the Afro-Asian group are the two Koreas. The round-robin was supposed to be played in Tokyo with the winner getting a place in the final sixteen. However, the Japanese won't issue visas to the North Koreans and thus the Tokyo venue is off.

### Expenses

Australia is not too keen to organise the affair as they would not have much hope to recoup the enormous expenses. And both Koreas are out as venues, for they would never consent to conceding an inch of an advantage to the other. So where? Maybe Cambodia, maybe Thailand could be the venue — but one never knows where serious planning ends and poker faced leg-pulling begins. The fact remains that whichever of these three countries eventually makes the final sixteen in the World Cup, it can get ready to receive some incredible hammerings. And that may finally teach F.I.F.A. a damned good lesson.

The whole idea of drawing up geographical subgroups for the elimination ties is outdated and should be scrapped. The World Cup, just like the Olympic Games, should be a test for the best — not a hodge-podge run according to longitudes and latitudes. If the U.S.A. have three men good enough to make the final of the 110 metres hurdles at the Olympics, three hurdlers she will have there. If the Soviet gymnasts, Hungarian fencers, Italian cyclists or German rowers can dominate their events, nobody should stop them by silly rules and arbitrary limitations.

The same should apply to soccer. At present Europe is being severely punished for having a greater number of powerful soccer countries than any other continent. As a result, of Austria, East Germany, Hungary, Sweden, West Germany, Scotland, Poland, Italy, France and Yugoslavia — ten in all — only four will qualify for the finals which may also include such comparative weaklings as Paraguay, Mexico and North Korea. Under the present archaic thinking and planning, the Jules Rimet Cup is not really a World Cup or championship, merely an intercontinental series. And it shouldn't be.

### Strength

It should be possible in today's jet-age to spread the obvious European and South American strength more equally in the elimination groups. It would not impose any hardship on Spain to meet Morocco instead of Ireland, for Hungary to clash with Iran instead of neighbouring Austria, and even for Australia to meet Mexico instead of North Korea. Once F.I.F.A. is prepared to think more boldly and more globally, the World Cup may become what it was designed to be, a meeting of the world's best teams. But as long as the present coach-and-horse thinking remains, the more obscure and backward (soccerwise) a zone a country comes from the more it will benefit by finding an easy path to the finals while in Europe some giants bleed away sadly. Another advantage of this change would be that F.I.F.A. would not expose itself to political blackmail like the one now used by the African countries. And to escape such indignities itself would be worth the price.


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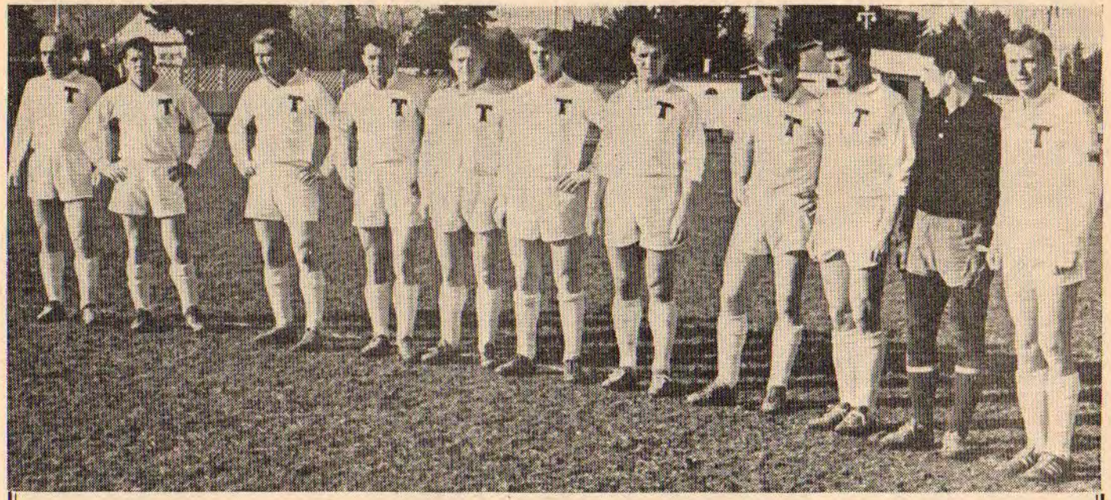

Moscow Torpedo: left to right: Ivanov, Kavazashvili, Voronin, Meschcheryakov, Shustikov, Shcherbakov, Konov, Sarayev, Andreyuk, Sergeev, Batanov. (Planet.)


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# BAD LANGUAGE MENACE FOR CURE

**"PUNCH" had a cartoon recently of a referee signalling a trainer on to the pitch and saying: "I want you to wash his mouth out with soap and water." Measures to curb swearing by players haven't quite reached that stage yet but I'm sure someone will be advocating it before long!**

So many players have been sent off for "using foul language" this season that one wonders what effect such books as *Lady Chatterley's Lover, The Lives and Loves of Frank Harris* and *The Naked Lunch* have had on the average footballer, whether amateur or professional. Or is it that footballers are saying more than they used to? Or perhaps it is that they have more provocation to swear?

### The Law

Law 12 says: "A player shall be sent off the field of play if: (n) he is guilty of violent conduct, i.e. using foul or abusive language, or if, in the opinion of the referee, he is guilty of serious foul play."

Long before the *Lady Chatterley* court case certain four letter words were commonly accepted in times of stress and strain. Freddie Trueman became the character he is today largely on the strength of the virulence of his appeals to the heavens whenever an umpire wouldn't give him a decision. No umpire has yet sent Freddie off though one or two in Commonwealth countries misinterpreted his meaning.

Many leading players say that to try and stop footballers swearing is rather like trying to stop them calling. And as all F.A. coaches know, calling is an essential part of the game.

Jimmy Greaves is a leading pro-swearer. "You get so het up playing football you can't help yourself," he says. "I swear at anyone, even my own team-mates, and they swear at me."

He compares himself with the man at the factory bench who finds that something has gone wrong, so he verbally lambasts the man next to him, or his boss.

Denis Law walks off the pitch having been dismissed by the referee for the alleged use of bad language for which he was subsequently suspended. (Prov. 1.)

"Don't you swear in your job?" he asks.

We must agree, of course, that most of us do swear from time to time even if it's only a mild "blow", "blast" or "blimey". Only the clergy, I would say, are

*By*
***BRIAN SCOVELL***

exempt from this human failing.

Mr. Billy Gray, the Millwall manager, who doesn't swear himself, has tried to discourage his players from swearing too much, chiefly because he feels that the over-use of naughty words is a bad influence on younger players.

Surely the whole argument is bound up with the attitude and bearing of the man doing the swearing. If a referee gives an attacker offside, for instance, and the attacker turns to him and calls him either or both of the two four-letter words most favoured by the swearers, then the referee must decide whether the offender was swearing in the right spirit.

(Nowadays he has also to decide to whom the words were addressed. It may have been a colleague and the referee might only be standing in the way.)

If, as often happens, the referee is old and experienced, he has probably been having a mild exchange of friendly swear words with the player anyway and the latest exchange is in that context. But if the referee has been aloof from such fraternising and has never met the player before, then surely he is entitled to send the player off if he feels he is justified.

After all, this isn't like swearing at your boss. It is insulting someone you don't know. Someone who has been appointed to act as a kind of judge over you for ninety minutes.

### Don't swear

Personally, I can't see why players do this anyway. If an umpire doesn't give me an lbw at cricket I don't swear at him. The slips do it for me... out of earshot of the umpire.

A big problem with so many international matches nowadays is the language barrier. I recall a Portuguese player being introduced to a particularly aggressive English centre-forward once and remembering what a rough time the player had given him in their first game, the Portuguese player let forth a stream of abuse in a most friendly voice. The centre-forward thanked him and wished him the best of luck too!

We might well joke about the business but children can't be blamed for aping their elders. Referees in charge of junior games tell me that the amount of swearing among young people playing the game has increased alarmingly in the last few years.

Some of them think the ending of National Service is to blame. Young people aren't so disciplined as they were ten years ago.

My view is that footballers should try and suppress their emotions and follow the example of cricket—learning to accept the decision of the referee without question. After all, you never get anywhere through arguing.

Only back to the dressing room if you've picked the wrong referee!



# Summer Soccer is nearer now

**IRISH NEWS**
***by COLIN McALPIN***

**NORTHERN Ireland could well become the first home country to make a change of season and organise their League programme for the summer months. Since the first games of the present programme started in snow, mud and freezing rain almost everybody connected with the game has gone into print on the side of a change. At a recent monthly meeting of the League's Management Committee there was a brief discussion on the proposal and delegates were instructed to discuss the question with their clubs and make the views known at the next meeting when it is expected there will be a fuller discussion.**

The controversy over summer football is certainly not a new one in the Irish League ... it has been kicked around for many years. But this season, perhaps more than any other, has seen a fair share of games ruined by bad weather. Notable games abandoned have included the Intermediate Cup final between Larne and Coleraine Reserves.

### Opportunity

There are many points for and against the change. Those for are fairly obvious ... warmer and more comfortable conditions for the spectators, dry grounds for players and an opportunity to play under conditions experienced by the top European clubs, more people attracted to spend an afternoon in the sun than come for an afternoon in the cold and rain. The againsts are also worth considering ... the clash with other sports, holidays, lack of facilities for junior clubs who must share ground in public parks with cricketers, agricultural shows (this strange item can be explained by the fact that clubs like Ballymena United play at grounds owned and used in the summer by Agricultural Societies).

But what do club officials think of the summer soccer prospect? I am glad to find that in a body of men I have attacked bitterly in the past there is much progressive thinking on this particular matter.

Here is a sample of opinions:

Mr. Dave McKeown (Ballymena chairman): "I am in favour of a change but a great deal of thought would have to go into the plan. We face a problem with agricultural shows being held at the Showgrounds but, of course, dates suitable to all could be arranged."

Mr. John Gilliland (Distillery chairman): "Personally I'm all for a change. I think weather has been terrible for soccer in the last few years and it would be better for gates."

Mr. Jack Gaw (Bangor chairman): "We have been backing a change from the very start."

Mr. Greer Walker (Portadown) pointed to finance as a weight to the argument for a change. "Bad weather at a recent match against Linfield caused receipts to fall by over £100. Against this a game against the Blues played in May pulled in over £1,500 and one against Glentoran netted over £900. I am all in favour of a change but too much time is wasted at meetings. There should be an immediate get-together now."

Ards chairman, Mr. Harold Black, was a bit cautious. "I would not be opposed to a trial period in the summer but clubs could lose money due to clashes with other sports. I'm not so certain this is the 'save-all' of Irish football."

From Derry, Linfield, Cliftonville, Crusaders, Glentoran, Coleraine and Glenavon came much the same answers. A trial period, they agreed, would do no harm. Something new it certainly is, but as Mr. Jack Doherty (Coleraine chairman) said, "We are living in 1965 and, just as in business, we must try something new to attract the fans".

### Success

Lastly a word from those against. Ards manager George Eastham was blunt, "It hasn't a chance of succeeding ... too many snags. Holidays, other sports and so on. I'd rather see an earlier start to the season and later finish with the two worst months (generally agreed to be January and February) cut out."

At the meeting which discussed the summer business it was also revealed that there is the possibility of football costing more to watch in the future. The minimum admission charge of 2s. may be increased because of the rising cost of equipment and ground upkeep. Present charges are the lowest for League matches in the British Isles, but, then, so are standards. At any rate it was decided to sound out the opinion of clubs and discuss the question at the next meeting.

A good deal of other news was made by clubs in connection with their grounds. Ballymena United, Glentoran and Coleraine all made the local headlines with reports of improvements at their respective headquarters.

### Chairman

At the Showgrounds, Ballymena, things bucked up with the appointment of new chairman McKeown. New tubular goalposts were erected, the boardroom was extended and decorated and the press were given a new, up-to-date box. A show band has been provided to run regular dances in the Town Hall to aid funds. Commented thirty-seven-year-old McKeown, a builder in the town, "New spirit is surging into United and we aim to get into the forefront of things. Potentially, we can have great support, for everybody is keen.

"You need new ideas and outside interests like dances to boost revenue. We are sure that in a season or so United will be one of the most attractive clubs in the country."

Glentoran made the sort of history that brightens the heart of any decent Irishman ... they became the first club in the country to be granted a licence for the sale of alcohol. Plans are now in hand for the building of club rooms and a bar to give football fans in the East End of Belfast a central social club. I hear, as a matter of interest, that the Glens' old rivals, Linfield, are also planning a social club as an extra means of revenue.

Coleraine announced their own plans for brighter soccer. These include a new building on the site of their reserved enclosure with provision for a social club, a concert hall. recreation room, changing room, offices and a glass-fronted balcony on the top storey for members. A new car park is also being mentioned as is the appointment of a full-time entertainments officer to arrange pre-match entertainment.

### Supporters

I am told that all this will cost about £10,000 but will be financed by the club's Development Club. Said chairman Doherty, "We want our supporters to be one happy family. For far too long the fan has been neglected and no effort has been made to change his lot. All this is to change and a new era for football will be opening in the area."

Derry City are having trouble over their ground at Brandywell. In fact, they are being pressured to get out of the Corporation owned ground and buy their own. It would be a terrific strain on the club to buy and fit up their own ground but with things looking as bright as possible for the City—at the time of writing they have streaked into the lead in the League championship race—their loyal fans would almost certainly rally round. We shall wait and see what the coming months hold.

### Shares

Bangor, deep in the money trouble but, happily, showing a vast improvement in playing standards, are offering the public 1,000 £1 shares. This decision is a reversal of a previous one not to sell shares. A spokesman told me they would like to sell them in £5 and £10 blocks rather than singularly.

# BREVITY AIDS SPAIN IN TOP PERFORMANCE

## *European Nations Cup triumph was result of revival*

writes

**ROGER MACDONALD**

**AT this time last year I had the comparatively easy task of explaining why Sweden were the Team of the Year, certainly on statistics, and almost certainly on performances. But the team of 1965 is less easy to find. I refuse to be greatly influenced by Eric Batty's mathematics last month and choose the principal unbeaten team, Italy, who played all their games at home and figured in an abysmal goalless draw with Czechoslovakia. Scotland played five mediocre teams; Hungary were far below their best in the European Nations' Cup; Yugoslavia struggled to beat little Luxembourg; the USSR's emphasis on defence was only surpassed by Bulgaria, who sadly and typically remained undefeated without scoring a goal.**

One is left not with a choice of outstanding teams but of countries who have shown a marked improvement in 1964. Who are they? Not Brazil, beaten at home for the second time in successive seasons by Argentina. Not the Argentinians, who showed that they were just as erratic as ever by losing to Paraguay. Certainly not Portugal or England, very much the poor relations of the tournament in South America. The choice lies between Austria, who beat Hungary, Yugoslavia and the USSR; and Spain, whose revival came just in time for them to win the European Nations' Cup.

The extent of their revival can be appreciated by a look at the list of appearances for Spain during 1964—fifteen players called upon for five matches. Not an exceptionally small total, perhaps, until one remembers the turnover of Spanish internationals in recent years. Thirty-one appeared in seven matches during 1961, including thirteen forwards who scored just ten goals. Only Di Stefano, Del Sol and Santamaria were selected for every match. Di Stefano, injured, and Morollon, the third-string goalkeeper, were the only members of the twenty-two-strong Chile party not to play in at least one of the three games. Between November, 1962, and December, 1963, twenty-nine players took part in eight matches. No one played in each international; four goalkeepers, four full-backs, seven half-backs and fourteen forwards were selected. A 6-4 win against Rumania was followed by a defeat (1-3) in Bucharest; three draws, against Belgium (1-1), France (0-0) and Northern Ireland (1-1); and a second victory over the Irish in Belfast, sandwiched between defeats by Scotland (2-6!) and Belgium (1-2), both at home.

SPOTLIGHT

Team-manager José Villalonga, successor to Ricardo Zamora, Pedro Escartin, Miguel Munoz, Hernandez Coronado, Helenio Herrera, etc., etc., was decidedly in the hot seat. After the catastrophic defeat by Scotland, his public resignation and indictment of F.A. policy left the Spanish F.A. with little option but to recall him on literally his own terms. But the abolition of the supervisory committee under Benito Pico put the responsibility fairly and squarely on Villalonga's shoulders. If he succeeded, he would receive all the credit; if he failed, a new contract up to the 1966 World Cup notwithstanding, he would be out.

Ever present centre-half for Spain last year was the Barcelona pivot Fernando Olivella. (O.)

Dunfermline Athletic on the attack against Atletico Madrid whose striped shirted defender Zorriqueta passes back to Spanish international goalkeeper Iribar in an Inter-Cities Fairs Cup match. (Planet.)





Little wonder that Villalonga sat biting his nails throughout the match in Belfast, vital to Spain if the final rounds of the European Nations Cup were to be staged in Barcelona and Madrid. Defeat would have meant elimination, and a curt note of displeasure from General Franco. In the event the Spaniards were fortunate to win, the only goal coming from Francisco Gento, captain for the day.

Following a home defeat by the rising Belgium side, José Villalonga put out a statement explaining his policy. It was based on four premises:

(1) to abandon the old practice of basing the team on one club, usually either Barcelona or Real Madrid;

(2) to discontinue the old practice of using naturalised players;

(3) to concentrate on youth as much as possible and to reintroduce "B" internationals;

(4) to select as far as possible the same team for each match, and to restrict the use of Spaniards playing in Italy to vital competitive matches.

### Confident

In the spring, Spain beat the other Irish from Dublin by five goals to one in the Quarter Finals of the European Nations' Cup. Villalonga, confident of victory, put his theory into practice. His list of seventeen possibles included three players from Barcelona, Betis, Real Madrid and Zaragoza; two from Atletico Madrid, and one each from Seville, Coruna, and Atletico Bilbao. Goalkeeper Iribar, left-back Fuste and inside-left Villa made their international début; Calleja returned at left-half after missing four internationals; Pereda moved to inside-right for his eighth cap. The reappearance of Marcelino at centre and Lapetra on the left wing made a Nos. 9, 10, 11 trio of Zaragoza players. Only the right-winger Amancio and Rivilla, Zoco and Olivella in defence remained from the match against Belgium.

This team was to do duty in the remaining European Nations' Cup-ties—with two exceptions. Zaballo came in for the injured Amancio at Dublin and scored both goals; while Luis Suarez temporarily replaced Villa (Barcelona) against Hungary and the USSR.

With Del Sol arriving too late from Juventus, Suarez was the key figure in the Spanish side. His midfield partnership with Fuste of Barcelona and the left-winger, Lapetra, just gave Spain the edge. Significantly, when Spain journeyed to Porto without him they suffered their first defeat of the year—two explosive shots by Eusebio after Fuste had given them a thirty-fifth minute lead with a long shot into the sun. But one of the Portuguese goals should have been disallowed and Spain might well have been awarded a penalty in the second half.

### Experts

How good are the Spaniards? A lot better, I believe, than many of the experts allow; certainly nowhere near their peak. The new goalkeeper, José Iribar, aged twenty-one with five caps, is a product of the Basque country like the immortal Ricardo Zamora. Despite a bad error against the USSR, when he let in a soft shot from Khousainov, Iribar is a tall, supple player with a great agility and a fine sense of timing. One redeeming finger-tip save against Russia, with the wind curling the ball away, was quite superb.

The full-backs are a club pair, José Rivilla and Ignacio Calleja of Atletico Madrid. Both were juniors when Villalonga joined Atletico from Real as a trainer, and he has continued to put his faith in them ever since. Of the two, Rivilla, twenty-eight years old with twenty-one caps, is the most experienced, although he is rather short and light for a full-back. He makes up for any deficiencies in stature and physique by speed of action and a fine sense of anticipation.

Calleja has made twelve appearances in full internationals, one fewer than Zoco and Olivella, as Seveino Reija was preferred against Portugal. Zoco played brilliantly for second division Osasuna back in 1961, earning himself a trip to Chile and a transfer to Real Madrid. A fierce tackler with great stamina, he makes an ideal cover for Olivella and yet finds time to start attacks through "tabellas" with Rivilla. Captain Fernando Olivella, twenty-eight on the day of the Final, is a reliable if unpretentious pivot. His team-mate at Barcelona, young Fuste, is a forceful, attacking player with a fine shot. He scored on his début against Eire and against Portugal, both from left-half.

In attack, Zaragoza's Villa tries hard to replace Suarez, but there are no substitutes for gods.

Luis Suarez the only Spanish cap of 1964 from a foreign club. The bass-playing Suarez was recalled for important European Nations Cup matches. (Keystone.)

Juan Manuel Villa, born in Seville, but a product of Real Madrid's youth team, is a fine ball-player, but a little uncertain in his movements. His team-manager at Zaragoza, Olsen, once a forward with Real Madrid, reckons he will become an outstanding footballer if Villalonga continues to play him alongside his club-mates Carlos Lapetra and Martinez Marcelino.

Lapetra, aged twenty-six with six caps, is an erratic if brilliant dribbler, most useful as a midfield organiser. Villa and Lapetra provide good service for Marcelino, twenty-four, a Galician like Suarez, with six appearances to his credit. Zaragoza's centre-forward, fast and fearless, has a prowess at shooting surpassed only by his accuracy with his head. He scored the winning goal against the USSR with a brilliant diving header that left the crowd and Yachin gaping with disbelief.

● *Continued on page 36*

**INTERNATIONAL CAPS FOR SPAIN, 1964**

| | A | B | C | G | G |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Iribar** (Bilbao) | G* | G | G | D | E |
| **Rivilla** (Atletico Madrid) | RB | RB | RB | RB | RB |
| **Calleja** (Atletico Madrid) | LB | LB | LB | LB | — |
| **Zoco** (Real Madrid) | RH | RH | RH | RH | RH |
| **Olivella** (Barcelona) | CH | CH | CH | CH | CH |
| **Fuste** (Barcelona) | LH (1)* | LH | LH | LH | LH (1) |
| **Amancio** (Real Madrid) | OR (2) | — | OR (1) | OR | OR |
| **Pereda** (Barcelona) | IR | IR | IR (1) | IR (1) | IR |
| **Marcelino** (Zaragoza) | CF (1) | CF | CF | CF (1) | CF |
| **Villa** (Zaragoza) | IL* | IL | — | — | IL |
| **Lapeta** (Zaragoza) | OL | OL | OL | OL | OL |
| **Zabulla** (Barcelona) | — | OR (2)* | — | — | — |
| **Suarez** (Inter-Milan) | — | — | IL | IL | — |
| **Rios** (Betis) | — | — | — | — | CH (5, 6)* |
| **Reija** (Zaragoza) | — | — | — | — | LB |
| | | (1 og.) | | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **A** v. Eire (European Cup Q.-Final 1st Leg) at Seville 5-1 | | 30,000 |
| **B** v. Eire (European Cup Q.-Final 2nd Leg) at Dublin 2-0 | | 40,000 |
| **C** v. Hungary (European Cup S.-Final) at Madrid 2-1 | | 50,000 |
| **D** v. USSR (European Cup Final) at Madrid 2-1 | | 120,000 |
| **E** v. Portugal (Friendly) at Oporto 1-2 | | 50,000 |

*début

*ROGER MACDONALD'S comprehensive country by country survey of the chief records affecting Europe as far as club football is concerned*

# FULL DETAILS OF EUROPEAN CLUB FOOTBALL IN 1964

| COUNTRY | (C) | CHAMPIONS | Pts. | RUNNERS-UP | Pts. | CUP FINAL | PROMOTED CLUBS | RELEGATED CLUBS | LEADING SCORER (League Div. I) | | MISCELLANEOUS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ALBANIA | 12 | Partizani Tirana | 35 | Dynamo T. | 30 | No Competition | — | — | Pano (Partizani) | 12 | No Promotion or Relegation |
| AUSTRIA | 14 | Rapid Vienna | 43 | Austria FC | 37 | Admira 1 Austria FC 0 | Wacker-Vienna Sturm-Gratz Wacker-Innsbruck | Dornbirn Simmering SVS Linz | Nemec (Austria FC) | 21 | League will be reduced to 12 clubs for 1965–66 |
| BELGIUM | 16 | Anderlecht | 45 | Standard Liege | 40 | La Gantoise 4 Diest 2 | Union St.-Gilloise Tilleur | Turnhout* Malines | Van Himst (Anderlecht) | — | *Finished 10th but convicted of bribery Paris Tournament: Anderlecht |
| BULGARIA | 16 | Lokomotiv Sofia | 41 | Lerske Sofia | 41 | Slavia 2 Botev 1 | Akademic Slivene | Spartak Varna Locomotiv Gorna | Zanev (CNDA) | 24 | League won on goal average |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA | 14 | Dukla Prague | 37 | Slovan Bratislava | 35 | Spartak Sokolovo 4 VSS Kosice 1 | Teplica Tarnaru Ostrokovice | Trinec Spartak Kradec Mortolet | Pavlovick (Tatran Preslov) | 21 | Mitropa Cup: Spartak Prague Rappan Cup: Slovnaft Bratislava |
| DENMARK | 12 | B1909 Odense | 31 | AGF Aarhus | 30 | Esbjerg 2 KFUM Odense 1 | Hvidorre AAB | AB Copenhagen Broenshoej | | | |
| EIRE | 12 | Shamrock Rovers | 35 | Dundalk | 30 | Shamrock Rovers 2 Cork Celtic 1 | — | — | Bailham (Shamrock R.) | 29 | No Promotion or Relegation †After 1-1 |
| ENGLAND | 22 | Liverpool | 59 | Manchester Utd. | 53 | West Ham 3 Preston N.E. 2 | Leeds Sunderland | Ipswich Bolton | Greaves (Tottenham H.) | 35 | League Cup: Leicester C. |
| FINLAND | 12 | HJK Helsinki | 34 | KUPS | 30 | | TuPa VPS Upon Pallo | KIF MiPK HPS | Tolsa (KTP) | 26 | |
| FRANCE | 18 | St. Etienne | 44 | Monaco | 41 | Lyons 2 Bordeaux 0 | Lille Sochaux Toulon | Racing Rheims Nice | Sekow (Montpellier) | 25 | League Cup: Strasbourg |
| EAST GERMANY | 14 | Leipzig | 35 | Empor | 33 | Won by Magdeburg | Dynamo Dresden Neubrandenburg | Halle Turbine | Backhaus (Loco. Stendal) | 15 | |
| WEST GERMANY | 16 | Cologne | 45 | Meiderich | 39 | Munich 1860 2 Ein. Frankfurt 0 | Hanover 96 Neunkirchen | Munster Saarbrucken | Uwe Seeler (HSV) | 30 | |
| GREECE | 16 | Panathinaikos | 84A | Olympiakos | 77A | AEK declared winnersB | Trikala Proodertiki | Chalkis Argaleo | | | A3 pts. win, 2 pts. draw, 1 pt. defeat; BS-F's: Pan'kos v. Olymp's riot; AEK 1 Pericles 0 |
| HUNGARY | 14 | Ferencvaros | 41 | Honved | 38 | Honved 1 Vasas Gyor 0C | — | Debrecen Diosgyor | Tichy (Honved) | 28 | CHonved nom. prev. for ECWC. Autumn Lge. winners. Vasas ETO Gyor in Eur. Cup |
| NORTHERN IRELAND | 12 | Glentoran | 33 | Coleraine | 32 | Derry City 2 Glentoran 0 | — | — | | | No Promotion or Relegation |
| ITALY | 18 | Bologna | 54 | Internazionale | 54 | Roma 1 Torino 0D (a.e.t.) | Cagliare Foggia Varese | ModenaE Ferrare Bari | Nielsen (Bologna) | 21 | DAfter 0-0; Torino nominated for ECWC; EAfter play-off: Sampdoria 2 Modena 0 |
| LUXEMBURG | 12 | Aris | 33 | Union | 31 | Union 1 Aris 0 | Rumerlange NeudorfF | Niedercorn Beggen | | | FDecider: Neudorf 1 Obercorn 0 |
| MALTA | 8 | Sliema Wanderers | 26 | Valetta | 22 | Valetta 1 Sliema W. 0 | Gzira Utd. | Melita St. Georges | Borg (Valetta) | 11 | League reduced to 7 clubs for 1964–65 |
| NETHERLANDS | 18 | DWS Amsterdam | 43 | PSV Eindhoven | 41 | Fortuna Geleem A.D.O. Hague | Telstar Sittardia | Blauwilf Volendam | Geurtsen (DWS) | 28 | DWS: 1st and 2nd Division Champions in successive seasons |
| NORWAY | 10 | Lyn Oslo | 26 | Fredrikstad | 24 | Roseborg 2 Sarpsborg 1 | Steinkjer Nidelv | Brann Sandefjord | Stavrum (Lyn) | — | |
| POLAND | 14 | Gornik Zabrze | 38 | Zaglebie Sosnowiez | 31 | Won by Legia Warsaw | Zawisza Slask | Wisla Arkonia | | | League may be reduced to 12 clubs in 1965 |
| PORTUGAL | 14 | Benfica | 46 | Porto | 40 | Benfica 6 Porto 2 | Bruga Torriense | Olhanense Barreinrense | Eusebio (Benfica) | 28 | E. Cup-Winners Cup: Sporting Lisbon |
| RUMANIA | 14 | Dynamo Bucharest | 40 | Rapid | 33 | Dynamo Bucharest 5 Steaua 2G | Craiova Baia Mare | Galatzi Timiscara | Pavlovici (Dynamo) | 19 | GFormerly C.C.A. |
| SCOTLAND | 18 | Glasgow Rangers | 55 | Kilmarnock | 49 | Rangers 3 Dundee 1 | Morton Clyde | Queen of South E. Stirling | Gilzean (Dundee) | 32 | Rangers won League: Cup = Treble |
| SPAIN | 16 | Real Madrid | 46 | CF Barcelona | 42 | Zaragoza 2 Atletico Madrid 1 | Las Palmas Corunna | Pontevedra Vallodolid | Puskas (Real Madrid) | 20 | Cadix Tournament: Betis Fairs Cup: Zaragoza |
| SWEDEN | 12 | Djurgardens IF | 31H | Malmö FF | 31H | No Competition | — | GAIS IFK Eskilstuna | Grunbom (Helsingborg) | 21 | HWon on goal average: DIF 46-20 MFF 45-20 |
| SWITZERLAND | 14 | Chaux-de-Fonds | 39 | Zurich | 38 | Lausanne 2 Chaux-de-Fonds 0 | Lugano Bellinzona | Schauffhausen Neuschûtel | Desboilles (Servette) | 24 | |
| TURKEY | 18 | Fenerbahce | 53 | Besiktas | 52 | Won by Galatasaray | Sekersport | Beyogluspor Kasimpacha Karsivaka | | | League reduced from 18 to 16 clubs |
| YUGOSLAVIA | 14 | Red Star Belgrade | 36 | OFK Belgrade | 33 | Red Star 3 Dynamo Zagreb 0 | Sutieska Zagreb | Novisad | | | Relegation reprieve for Vardar Skopje |
| U.S.S.R. | 14 | Dynamo Tibilissi | 46 | Torpedo Moscow | 46 | Kiev Dynamo 1 Kuibyshev 0 | — | Moldora Sinnvik Kairat Volga Gorki | Fedotov (CSKA) | 16 | Florence Tournament: Zenith Leningrad |

**Other National Cup-Winners:** Anorthosis (Cyprus), Cardiff City (Wales).

**ERIC BATTY considers that the trend towards defence goes back to forty years ago and the offside change**

# DEFENCE CRISIS DUE TO THE "STOPPER"

**SINCE the last World Cup in Chile, a great many people have lined themselves up against the policy of defence which marked the series, and with more and more teams switching to negative football, it seems inevitable that the 1966 series will be dominated by teams with strong, reinforced and well drilled defences. Between 1958 when 4-2-4 set the tactical standard, and 1962, the game made several hurried strides towards 4-3-3, and only a short step from here is catenaccio. 4-2-4 was not unlike the WM it superseded for it still gave an even balance between defence and attack. With two players free in midfield, 4-2-4 enabled a team to switch easily and naturally from attack to defence and vice versa — attacking with six and defending with six.**

Very few people welcome the move towards defence, and many of the game's leading personalities have come into the open and spoken sharply against it, but so far no one has suggested any change in the Laws of the Game which would firmly put the game back on a positive path.

In recent weeks, both Sir Stanley Rous, President of F.I.F.A., and Helenio Herrera, manager-coach of Internazionale, have suggested a change in the offside law and already several unofficial games have been staged to try out the proposed changes. The results have been inconclusive, and those who realise what a profound change was created by the alteration of 1925 are fearful of the repercussions.

### Predicament

Before suggesting changes, we must be very sure of our ground, and I do not believe that the Laws of the Game are in any way responsible for the present predicament. Right at the very heart of the problem is the stopper, and behind him the double-stopper, and they both evolved naturally after the change of 1925. In my view that change—from three to two—was unnecessary, but it wouldn't help now to simply change the offside law back from two to three. The game has changed, and it is no longer the offside-trap that threatens to choke the game out of existence, but a tactical system which throws the emphasis on defence and the quick breakaway, followed once more by remorseless defence.

Before we can suggest an effective counter to the massed defence we must understand how and why, the catenaccio system evolved.

Prior to 1925, the key man in the game was the centre-half. Not the stalwart stopper of today but the most superb and complete player of all time. Roving ceaselessly between defence and attack, the centre-half was the real general, a fine ball player with all the skills, a deep intelligence and unbounding energy. Defence was largely ignored, and the entire team was hinged to attack, to the search for goals.

This according to those old enough to have seen football before the First World War, through the 'thirties to the 'fifties, was the "Golden Era" in which talent and skill were supreme; virtuosity and genius almost commonplace. If we had gone on seeking talent and skill, goals and more goals, all would have been well, but perhaps inevitably defenders found a way to stop the flow of goals. Most of the credit for the offside-trap has been given to Willie McCracken of Newcastle United, though perhaps he wasn't the first full-back to race upfield at the crucial moment and appeal for offside. If McCracken was the first, then certainly many more quickly realised the value of the offside game, and according to contemporary observers the game was thrown into such confusion that something had to be done.

"Dixie" Dean returned to the scene of his many Everton triumphs last year to kick-off in the Everton-Liverpool friendly for his testimonial. (M.P.I.)

The Law was changed from three to two—thus making it more difficult (but still far from impossible) to catch a forward offside. Had the Laws been left untouched, then perhaps the problem would have lingered for a while, though resourceful players would surely have found the way through. Receive the ball in your own half, and though the opposing defenders are strung out along the half-way line "begging" an unwitting forward to step offside he will not be penalised until the pass is made. A good player, sizing up the situation, could demoralise the trappers, feinting to pass, then changing his mind shuffling forward ... feinting again, and judging the moment, going through with the ball himself. In near panic now the defenders scatter, chasing back to defend their goal, and even if the man in possession isn't quick enough to score himself, he could certainly profit from the general confusion, and create a shooting position for someone else.

The legislators acted in haste, however, and changed the Law under mounting pressure from professional clubs who feared the public would lose interest in the game, and unwittingly they pushed us along the road to catenaccio.

With the offside trap far more difficult to operate under the amended Law, defenders were once more at a disadvantage, until Herbert Chapman, the manager of Arsenal, hit on the answer. The crowds didn't like the stopper centre-half when he was first introduced and no wonder, for in the years which followed the offside change, goals became commonplace. In the late 'twenties and early 'thirties, all the top class goalscoring records were set up. In England's First Division, W. R. "Dixie" Dean of Everton hit sixty in 1927–28 and in Division II Camsell of Middlesbrough scored fifty-nine in 1926–27. In Scotland, too, it was the same—McFadyen (Motherwell) getting fifty-two, the First Division

record in 1931–32, and Smith of Ayr United setting the Second Division's maximum in 1927–28. These were not isolated figures either for they all nearly equalised their best totals in every season, and other players were not far behind.

The defence were wide open, and against them every team pitched five forwards with the general — the attacking centre-half close behind. Six against four made it clear what would happen. The result was goals and more goals, with everyone attacking ... until Chapman produced the stopper.

At first, the Arsenal switch was not a success, for Chapman simply asked his attacking centre-half to become a defender and play between the two full-backs. Lacking the temperament to stand back, the centre-half often came out and conceded goals, but when Chapman found Herbie Roberts, a big ginger-haired destroyer, unbeatable in the air and content to be nothing more than a defender the die was cast.

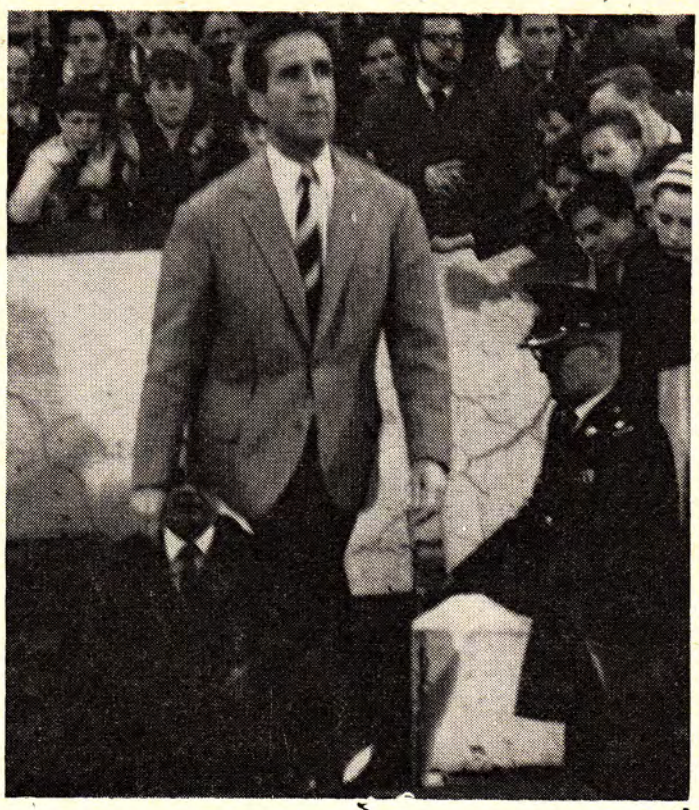
Chapman restored order, where chaos once reigned, and the deluge of goals was halted. Now the WM system evolved naturally, with five defenders and five forwards. With defence and attack evenly matched, the result now hung on skill and ability.

### Fettered

Though many decried the stopper as a negative step, the British game slowly came to accept him, and one after another the big clubs followed Arsenal's lead. Everywhere the great general was fettered to become a stopper, and his creative role in midfield fell to the wing-halves and inside-forwards. The stopper now became the king of the defence, big, strong, fearless, uncompromising. A determined tackler, a fine header and dedicated to stop the Deans and the Camsells ever scoring sixty goals in one season, and they succeeded.

Abroad, the English game particularly was regarded as both mother and father, and slowly the stopper was exported, and adopted throughout the world. By the end of the Second World War, only Austria among the European countries still clung to the outmoded attacking centre-half. Elsewhere he had become a stopper—the third back.

It is perhaps significant that Austria, Uruguay and Argentina who all clung to the attacking centre-half until well into the 1950s all suffered a serious decline at that time. In the 1954 World Cup Uruguay and Austria both reached the semi-finals, but by 1958 Uruguay failed to qualify, the Argentinians disgraced themselves in Sweden, and Austria did so badly that their F A. declined to enter for the 1962 Series! While they clung to an outmoded system, others built their teams on a solid defensive base.



Helenio Herrera the mentor of Inter-Milan is one of the present day managers who are urging a change from the catenaccio approach to modern soccer. (Prov. 2.)

The centre-half really was the king-pin, for if he were beaten on the ground or in the air consistently, goals were sure to come. He mustn't be beaten, and he used every trick to prevent his opponent breaking through. Pushing, holding and tripping—never afraid to handle the ball outside the penalty area he became a real stopper, and for a long time he was able to dominate the centre of the defence.

### Progressed

With the coming of the stopper, however, the British game became divorced from that of Central Europe, and with England and the other Home Associations outside F.I.F.A. each school progressed along its chosen path.

In Britain, the stopper became a physical barrier, that had to be smashed to open the way to goal. Centre-forwards changed in size and style to match the giant stoppers. Where once they had been speedy, clever ball players and intelligent, typified by Hughie Gallacher and Vivian Woodward, they now became big, burly, bustling, with Arsenal's fearless Ted Drake the prototype.

Once the stopper became accepted on the Continent, however, the Central Europeans attacked him with intelligence rather than brawn. Why let that big ox smash our centre-forward, they argued in Budapest and Vienna. Let the centre-forward pull back away from the stopper, and he will be tempted out into the more fluid game in midfield where our centre-forward with superior skill can beat him.

Thus while both schools adopted the stopper centre-half, who strove to blot the centre-forward out of the game, British centre-forwards met him head-on, on ground of his choosing. In Central Europe they tried to pull out of position, and re-create the space between the backs which had existed before Chapman produced the stopper. An adaptable, intelligent ball player was needed on the continent for centre-forward, while in Britain the spearhead became a battering ram.

In 1953, the British game received too nasty shocks when first a F.I.F.A. XI and then the Hungarians came to Wembley with the Continental brand of soccer at near perfection. For F.I.F.A. there were no less than five men who played centre-forward for their clubs—Boniperti, Kubala, Nordahl, Vukas and Zebec all in one attack. Nordahl, who was burly, quick and fearless, was the only one who could be likened to a British centre-forward, and even he was well versed in the cat-and-mouse, pull the centre-half out, game. Nordahl the striker, withdrew, pulling Charlton centre-half Derek Ufton out into the wilderness, leaving the others to exploit the gap Ufton left, and Boniperti (two) and Kubala (two) to get the goals.

Only a few weeks later, the Hungarians followed, with Hidegkuti again playing the vital role at centre-forward. He, too, withdrew, and persuaded Harry Johnston of Blackpool—a far more experienced campaigner—to leave his usual beat, and into the space went Puskas and Kocsis.

Now it can be seen quite clearly that the centre-half has two jobs of equal importance. On the one hand he must blot out the opposing centre-forward, and on the other he must adequately fill the gap between the backs. Both jobs are vital—and this is the point at which catenaccio was born. Remember this for a moment, for this is the critical point. The centre-half has two jobs—two men's work, which catenaccio gives to two men.

### Strayed

In Britain one centre-half was enough, for centre-forwards chose to stay up, close to the centre and never straying far from the penalty area. This made it easy for the stopper to do both jobs, but on the Continent, it was quickly realised that if the centre-half stayed in the space between the backs, it left the centre-forward free. If he stayed tight on the centre-forward it left the vital space free for others to exploit, and three good—really good inside-forwards knew just how to exploit this space. This is what made the Kocsis, Hidegkuti, Puskas Hungarian team so outstanding, and just a few years before Gren, Nordahl and Liedholm had done the same thing for Sweden when they won the 1948 Olympics title in London.

● Continued on page 36

South Africa v. Arsenal last year showing Henry Hauser (left) and goalkeeper Trevor Gething in action for the home team. There will be no visit from Arsenal or Tottenham this year. (N.D.R.I.)

AFRICAN NEWS by NORMAN D. REICH

# A RACIAL ISSUE BUT DIFFERENT

**SIR Stanley Rous rolled up his sleeves and dived into the cauldron that is Southern Africa's soccer. His primary aim was to sort out Rhodesia's affairs and so rid F.I.F.A. of one of its more nagging barbs in the side.**

Rhodesia's different soccer communities just do not seem capable of coming to terms with each other. In the past, attempts to set up a national association recognised by all the racially represented splinter associations, have all failed. Sir Stanley busied himself with the problem two years ago. It took him a matter of hours and an F.A. was formed. Hardly had he turned his back to go to Cairo and report on the matter, than it had disintegrated.

Representatives of European clubs walked out of the first meeting and that was the end of the National Football Association of Southern Rhodesia.

Since, there have been two rival ruling bodies which threaten to bring a similar state of affairs to Rhodesia as prevails in South Africa.

Unlike in South Africa, it is not a clear cut racial question that is stilting Rhodesian soccer. All races meet on the field at times but full-scale multi-racial leagues come a cropper where facilities are concerned.

Sir Stanley persuaded the country's fragmented soccer movement to come together again. Now only time will tell if they will remain unified and so gain their long-sought membership to F.I.F.A. If they fail, a term under suspension may follow, that would do irreparable harm to a teenage soccer country like Rhodesia.

From Salisbury, Sir Stanley flew to Maseru in Bechuanaland where he had talks with the organising secretary of the Bechuanaland Union Sports Association, Mr. Peter Mmusi. Bechuanaland is one of those soccer minnows that abound in Africa who are ambitious for soccer success.

They have often exchanged visits with South African and Rhodesian sides. Now, with South Africa suspended, competition must come from elsewhere. The two officials discussed the possibility of a Bechuanaland side visiting Britain in the near future. Sir Stanley promised Mr. Mmusi that he would speak to the British Minister of Overseas Development on the matter of assistance for such a tour: Bechuanaland, now an affiliate of the world body, was also informed that she may apply for equipment, educational films and financial assistance from F.I.F.A.

South Africa remains Sir Stanley's flash point. He shied clear of the press but did have discussions with Mr. Fred Fell, F.A.S.A.'s chief. It is thought that he used strong words to outline the only path South Africa may take to return to the fold.

In the meantime, South Africa is preparing for the season coming up. There will be no Tottenham Hotspur or Arsenal this year and substitutes are being worked out. An excellent idea to play a knock-out inter-provincial competition has now been sanctioned. Big prize money will add to the incentive.

The Western Province F.A. celebrates its seventy-fifth Anniversary this year, and to mark the occasion, it is intended that a South African-born XI plays against a team made up of imported players.

The imports are increasing every day. The go-ahead Cape Town club, Hellenic, had fifty applications from foreign players. They eventually decided on five. Two names have been announced, both Paraguayan international forwards. They are Jose Quinonez and Ramon Rodriquez. Certainly, they will add further dash to an already colourful side. Hellenic, with several Greek internationals on their books, in fact look like a side quite capable of carrying off the major honours this season. Under manager Mario Tuani, it will be rather surprising if they do not lift either the Cup, League or Bowl.

Promoted Olympia have spread their net in search of talent to keep them in the premier division. They "hooked" coach-manager Severiano Correira from Portugal and then captured Andre Felices and Antonio Zimmerman from Spain, Oscar Ganzerlos and Fernando Salgado from Argentina and a Hungarian, Laz Schauma, from Australia.

All the First Division clubs have now settled their manager problems. It seems as though the manager's chair in South Africa is an even hotter seat than its counterpart in England. Only five clubs have retained the men who handled them last season.

Vernon Wentzel, Addington's free-scoring centre-forward, featured in a transfer to Durban City that has broken the N.F.L. transfer record, now raised to £5,000. Wentzel, who netted fifty-three times last season, will link with City's Bobby Chalmers (leading scorer with fifty-eight in 1964) into a really formidable double act. City's prospects for the coming campaign have been considerably enhanced.

Charlton Athletic have sold their South African forward, Cliff Durandt, back to his parents for £4,500. He was bought by the club in 1963 for £15,000 but due to the personal factors involved, Charlton agreed to drop their price.

Suddenly, South Africa knows why she is cast out of F.I.F.A. The Mayor of Bloemfontein, Mr. A. D. Viljoen, speaking at a reception for the American Lawn Bowls Association tourists, explained it all. "You have your Negroes, and we have our Africans. They are both Black, and the problems are the same, only we prefer to keep them Black as our Creator made them.

"We also appreciate that they are the best boxers and sprinters in the world, but we prefer to sacrifice world championships and the gold medals at the Olympic Games, rather than to win them through our Africans."





Man in the Middle's Views by SIDNEY CLARKSON

# DOES THIS TAIL INDULGE IN THE WAG OF A DOG?

**THE fierce light of publicity by news, television and radio, shows frailties in football's façade. In the January "World Soccer", writer and enthusiast Eric Batty made sincere suggestions for the game's betterment.**

If we read him correctly, he says the modern game has become too costly, too fast and too badly controlled. Let us take two of those charges for Mr. Batty repeats what he once said a year ago, that the level of refereeing is at its lowest now that the game is at its toughest. Mr. Batty must surely know that there are some eighty referees in the Football League and that rarely do more than seven or eight retire by age limit in any year — less than 10 per cent. So the standard that was seemingly satisfactory two years ago, is not now, even though its personnel can hardly have changed 15 per cent.

### Fast Juniors

As to the contention that the game is too fast for referees to control, we would reply that the fastest games *for referees* are not those where there are competent league linesmen up with play, but the humble ones in the public park where the ref. just has to be with the ball to judge his own "offsides". On a rough ground with a wind or a slope this makes the fittest only able to be on the ball! Your Football League man may have to move quickly between the middle, but note in the next "big match" how the ball is held to beat the retiring defence near the penalty area. Note also how rarely the First Division ref. enters, or needs to enter the goal area, then think again Mr. Batty about speed in the modern game!

We need, of course, to get our figures and priorities right. It is true that there are around 30,000 clubs in England of which 450 are professional. Of a million players there are 7,000 to 8,000 professional, or only 1¼ per cent of the total. Let's stop thinking that the "minority tail" is the whole dog, and realise the unpublicised thousands who honour the game for what they can put into it.

Few enthusiasts today will accept the onus of the whistle. (Agreed.) According to present-day values they are meagrely paid. Possibly, but tradition has made this a part-time position of responsibility and it is debatable whether a higher fee could or would make an official any more loyal or efficient. A higher fee might attract the wrong sort of man indeed!

### The Way Up

At present, promotion, which the Association admits is "rather slow" and is the subject of a confidential enquiry, is made through the lower Leagues by annual recommendations. To have attained the front rank a man must have obtained consistently good "markings", have had eight-fifteen years' experience starting with junior football (line and middle), have had to balance his domestic and social life to fit in with outside demands upon his time and energy, and also to have kept himself healthy throughout all elements of our British winters. Bearing in mind these essentials, I just cannot admit the cheap jibe that promotion depends upon whom a man knows rather than upon what he knows. Sorry, Eric!

### Money, Money

It is generally agreed now that professional football ranks about the twelfth industry in the land. Certainly sport has become, for better or for worse, "big business", and not a few of the businesses in the lower Third and Fourth Divisions are "in the red". I cannot see much welcome for an enhanced match fee of £20 on top of a £30 a week retainer from the F.A. amongst those clubs that are "on the bread line". Nor is the negative attitude of stiffer fines for players or clubs going to engender a happier attitude in the game. Rich clubs, where keenness is, will laugh at any fine with impunity. Inconsistencies must surely arise if such a policy were to be followed. Trouble-makers both on pitch and terraces must indeed be deterred. But when there is violence, as there is in our cities, is there any wonder that it invades all walks of life, including the sporting arena. Again it is the minority "tail of the dog" that is getting a bad name for the rest.

Mr. Batty here has really tried to ease the burden of the referee, who in a flash must make up his mind whether a trip, push, charge, kick, striking or withholding, etc., was deliberate and intentional. Suppose though for an experimental period the word "intentional" was erased as suggested, we have the easier point that all handling is deliberate. Would we, I wonder, see a skilful player deliberately flick the ball on to the arm of an oncoming tackler in the area and appeal for a penalty in the same style as those "artists" who now fall over the ball or exaggerate a tackle in an attempt to "gain" a penalty award? I can see a "Penalty King" being an essential of any side as much as a stopper centre or goalkeeper. I could see games finishing up 7-5 with perhaps four penalties awarded to each side in a game, and the position getting so ludicrous that a penalty could count only half a goal compared with a "field goal" that involved combined play and passing.

### A "Beeching"?

The game is truly in a parlous state, and it will need the goodwill and judgement of writers such as Mr. Batty, players, administrators and referees round a table to streamline a sport into something that is workable, foolproof and flexible to the demands of the day. As they stand at present the Laws, like Topsy in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, have "just growed". The F.A. may soon have to do a "Beeching" much as the M.C.C. almost too late have done for cricket.

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# Belgian visit — a warm up for Dublin

**EIRE'S proposed World Cup tie with Syria turned out to be much ado about nothing. After months of frustration; after a date dispute between both Association and League legislators that almost disrupted the home game; after the biggest pre-match mystery ever experienced in the Emerald Isle, came the news that Syria had withdrawn and that Eire would engage Spain in a straight World Cup tie play-off.**

Everyone in Eire sighed with relief. None more so than long-serving Secretary Joe Wickham, who worked harder to find out what the Syrians wanted than anyone else, including F.I.F.A. Wickham, in fact, would not work as hard even if Eire were to sponsor the World Cup.

In the meantime, and in order to ensure proper preparations for the play-off pay-off game with Spain, Belgium have accepted a game in Dublin on March 24. There is also the possibility of a game with Argentina arising out of their proposed European tour planned for this summer. Germany owe Eire a return game and this is another match on the cards for later this year or early '66.

### Results

This is not only a busy programme for wearers of the green but an important one. A series of good displays that must produce good results are vital if Eire are to remain in the top flight and ensure future invitations from those footballing countries that count at the box-office. Heavy defeats, like some suffered in the past, would do tremendous harm and dispatch Eire into the limbo of the International lost.

Although according to a French poll, based, no doubt, on the results of the European Nations' Cup competition, Eire are there already. Fair enough but with Belgium grouped with Eire down among the dead men one begins to wonder. If Belgium's Wembley play is any guide they are hardly as bad as the French would have us believe. Certainly they will provide formidable opposition for an Irish side that did well enough in beating Poland to suggest they are capable of greater things. With the odd change of course.

*EIRE ROUND-UP*
*by*
*TOM MULDOWNEY*

The Dublin dust-up will provide a pointer to the prowess of both sides. Especially the Irish who have little reason for optimism when considering their World Cup prospects against Spain who shot them out of the Nations' Cup. Belgium are old foes. The series started in 1928 with matches following in 1929–30 and 34. Came war and on-field hostilities were not resumed until 1949 with the last game played at Brussels in 1950. This was Eire's first look at lights but they were put in the shadows, crushed 5-1. It's strange that for one reason or another the two nations never met since. Irishmen are happy at this opportunity of reopening such an old association but hope it will open in better light than the closing game fifteen years ago.

Argentina paid one previous visit to Eire. In the summer of 1951. Their 1-0 victory was not impressive over a team that had not won in two years. Germany, like Belgium, are old rivals and first came to Dublin in 1936. This series has been maintained with Eire more than holding their own.

The old refrain "Did your mother come from Ireland?" has taken on a new meaning for our International selectors since the F.I.F.A., Tokyo Congress ruled that a player not honoured by the country of his birth is eligible to be selected by the country where his parents were born. This new rule puts Manchester United defender Shay Brennan on Eire's short list. The Eire F.A. will, no doubt, consult with the F.A., before making any move to select Brennan. At twenty-seven, Brennan's chance of an English cap seems remote and in that case the Lancaster legislators will not likely stand in the way of the boy whose father and mother came from Ireland.

Brennan is reported as saying that he would be honoured to play for Eire and chances are he will soon swap green for red to partner club-mate Tony Dunne. Goalkeeper Pat Dunne could complete a Manchester shamrock. The former Shamrock Rover net-man could get the nod over Noel Dwyer or Alan Kelly, Preston's pin-up, on the strength of his understanding with the Tony Dunne–Brennan combination.

### Unpaid

The amateurs are also in the news. England's very strong International eleven will meet Eire's unpaid this month. And it's a game of more than usual importance. For on their display against the whites, the greens can assure themselves of a trip to Reykjavik to play Iceland in the summer.

Bohemians, Eire's only senior simons, will provide a number of the team. But Home Farm, who, though playing in "B" Division have this season won the Leinster Senior Cup from under the nose of the seniors, defeating three senior sides in the process.

Gerry James, Farm's pivot, must go in. This player is good enough for the English market but has no interest in joining the paid ranks. Players like James, Conroy and others; clubs like Home Farm and Bohemians makes mockery of the tall tales that the amateur game is one of the past. With Limerick in the red to the tune of £4,000 and other professionals struggling to keep black, only the unpaid make progress. Like Bohs, Home Farm have a ground to call their own and a reserve staff the envy of all the League of Ireland clubs.

So to those who advise the amateurs turn professional perhaps they should change their tune. Limerick and others would be better off with an amateur pay-roll. It's a thought!

Manchester United goalkeeper Pat Dunne who might be called up for World Cup duty this year. (P.A.I.)



**Amancio Amaro (Real Madrid)** ▶

# SOLD A BIKE FOR SOCCER KIT!

**SINCE joining up with Real Madrid two years ago, Amancio Amaro has earned himself a reputation as a winger to watch. "A useful player"; "talented"; "quite fast", were typical of the things said about him before the recent Real–Dukla clash in the second round of the European Cup. Switched to inside-right for the first leg in Chamartin, to take over the role of striker with Puskas unfit, Amancio was a sensation. Czech trainer Jaroslav Vejvoda went home convinced that the new Real were world class, and that Amancio who hit three of the Spanish goals, had never been an outside-right at all.**

Though many of the Chamartin fans might have been pleasantly surprised by Amancio's success as a striker, thousands of futbol aficionados in Galicia who listened to the radio commentary were not surprised at all. Delighted that their second favourite son should do so well, and no doubt remembering the goals he hit for La Coruna as an inside-forward.

Galicia is the Atlantic province in the North West corner of Spain, where only two clubs, RCD Coruna and Pontevedra, have made any serious contribution to the game. While lacking an outstanding team, Galicia has already produced two of Spain's greatest players — Chaco, who once hit seven goals for Spain against Bulgaria, and Suarez who moved from Coruna to Barcelona and then to Internazionale. Seven years ago, Galicia fans already talking of their third great player, a tiny little inside-forward who continually juggled the ball past defender after defender and often walked the ball into goal. When Suarez heard of him, during a brief holiday from CFB, he saw him play and phoned to Barcelona "come and sign Amancio".

Barcelona tried, offering Real Club Deportivo £3,000, but RCD turned it down and CFB forgot him.

Amancio was born soon after the Spanish Civil War ended, at a village near Coruna, in October, 1939. There he sneaked away whenever he could to play in street games, barefooted, and while other boys dreamed of bicycles, all he wanted was a real futbol camiseta and shorts. Though his father had never played himself and preferred to buy Amancio a bike for his tenth birthday, he gave way and bought the longed-for shirt and shorts and boots (!).

At fourteen Amancio was playing for CF Victoria in a regional league around Coruna, and reports of his ability with the ball, dribbling, heading and scoring goals began to reach RCD, and after he was chosen to play for Galicia in the Spanish Youth championship, inside-right and captain, Coruna signed him.

With a £300 signing-on bonus and a salary of £10 a week Amancio was on top of the world — a professional in the Second Division. RCD were convinced he would be a top class player, but in his first outing he flopped badly. Emilio

**Player Portrait by ERIC BATTY**

Hilario, formerly a Real Madrid player, was the RCD boss at that time, and realising Amancio was too keyed up prescribed a glass of wine before the next game. Amancio played and scored. He was on his way.

With Amancio at inside-right, RCD Coruna won promotion to the First Division at the end of the 1961–62 campaign, and for Amancio there was an extra reward when Don Hernandez Coronado chose him to play in a trial match before the trip to Chile for the World Cup. Amancio played and scored, but though his name was on the F.I.F.A. list of forty names, he didn't go to Chile.

While the World Cup was going on, Real Madrid made an approach to Coruna for his transfer, and though they didn't want to lose Amancio they couldn't afford to reject Real's bid—ten million pesetas (£30,000), three players in exchange, Antonio Ruiz, Miche and Cebrian, plus the loan of goalkeeper Betancourt. Coruna said yes, and Amancio moved to Chamartin.

Though Amancio fancied his chance of pushing Felix Ruiz out of the first team at inside-right, Real coach Miguel Munoz had other ideas. You're small for an inside-forward, he said, and you've plenty of time. Try it on the wing for a bit. Settling in at once, he feinted and dribbled his way through the best defences in Spain, laying on goals for his colleagues, and in the first campaign, 1962–63, hitting fifteen goals himself. Inevitably, he attracted the attention of Jose Villalonga, the new boss of the national team, and was chosen to play against Rumania, but, injured the Sunday before that match, he had to cry off, and Spain won 6-0 without him. Two months later he won his cap, in the second leg of the Nations Cup tie in Bucharest, and though Rumania won 3-1, Spain got through on aggregate and Amancio kept his place.

In June, 1964, Amancio had won two championship medals with Real, appeared in the European Cup Final, and won six caps before the final stages of the European Nations Cup. Lining up at outside-right in the semi-final against Hungary, Amancio was brilliant. Three days later Amancio helped Spain beat Russia 2-1 to win the Nations Cup, but still no one thought him to be the equal of Di Stefano or Puskas.

Very fast, stocky now instead of slight as he was with Coruna, Amancio's greatest assets are superb ball control, acceleration and an ability to change feet (and direction) in a manner that resembles the former England winger, Tom Finney. Allied to his eye for a scoring chance and the instinct that carries him inside his back, looking for a through pass, these qualities could make him a success anywhere. Then against Dukla with the inexperienced Serena in Amancio's usual spot on the wing, the nineteen-year-old Pirri substituting for Puskas, and Grosso in Di Stefano's former place, the attack revolved around Amancio. At inside-right Amancio was a revelation, working in midfield, dribbling, feinting and shooting. Three times he scored, to give Real a commanding 4-0 lead for the second leg, and in Prague with Real trailing 2-1 again stepped in to hit a twenty-yard equaliser with his left foot!

At twenty-five, the young man from Galicia had finally arrived, and when *France Football* counted the votes after their recent poll to determine who should be given their "Golden Ball" for 1964, unknown Amancio Amaro took third place behind Denis Law and Luis Suarez.

# VITALITY AND INTEREST ARE SADLY NOT VISIBLE

**IT'S siesta time here on the domestic soccer front as fans wait for the new season to arrive. Rather than to hibernate, it would be appropriate, at this period, to view from a high tower the scene of battles, won and lost, in the home arena, and determine the outcome of past events and think of a change of things for the better.**

## ASIAN SOCCER FRONT by K. P. KHOO

A dizzy year was '64, inconsistent football and financial crisis have had more than their share of a bad situation, providing no ground for complacency and sinking the game to a new low.

Nowadays, the roars of soccer throngs are not as loud and enthusiastic as they used to be. Hardly audible, so some said. A few years back soccer honours were not so hard to come by.

Those were glorious days worthy of remembering into old age. Today, whether it's a tussle against a visiting team or the run-of-the-mill affair of domestic competitions, terraces are scarcely full. One observes a lack of vitality and interest.

Malaysia, her future soccer status hanging awkwardly in the balance, must improve. The dismal position attained in the Seventh Merdeka Tournament, duly won by darkhorse Burma who beat India 1-0 in the Final, leaves much to be desired.

It might be attributed to a "transitional period" when weather-beaten campaigners make way for the Young Turks.

But Malaysia, as most people tend to believe, is one of the stronger soccer nations in this corner of the world. Thus, finishing only above Thailand and Cambodia, in a tourney where nine nations took part, is hardly commendable nor encouraging.

Having also fared poorly in 1963, there have been doubts of the progress of soccer in this land. Has the game reached the point of inertia?

To put forward such a question would not be proper, for beneath that thin crust of failure and disappointment, a gold mine of talent lies hidden.

An intelligent survey and the right approach would herald that talent to the surface. The urgent need now is a whip-cracking authority—to start the ball rolling.

The big events of 1965 loom ahead and time is hard-pressed. Firstly, the Eighth Merdeka Tournament (July 22 to August 1) and then, the South East Asia Peninsula Games in August.

In recent times, the F.A.M. have been adopting more of the youth policy, and if Malaysia's burgeoning young recruits could be harnessed into a workmanlike side, then the administration needn't be doubtful of the future.

In soccer, wealth and prestige follow in the wake of success and to achieve this target the game must be appetising in order to draw the throngs.

One big step to meet this is to appoint a reputable foreign coach. This cry has been sounded many a time, and at last, a West German coach will take charge come April.

### Religion

Unlike Brazil or Italy, football, in this country, is not a fanatical religion. It's not the indigenous players' bread-and-butter diet. Nevertheless, it's the nation's number one sport, and for that matter, the game must strive to reach greater heights.

Around the soccer world there have been talks of Super Leagues and whatnot. Recently, the Australian Federation were contemplating on the formation of a National League. The West Germans, who before, played in a League system of four regions, are now experiencing a boom in their Bundesliga. And this prompts an evil thought in me—to raise the question of a National League for Malaysia too!

The present system of zoning the Malaya Cup and F.A.M. Cup competitions is definitely a parochial method of developing the game here. Surely the present situation calls for the creation of a National League to give footing to a new era.

So much the better if the new N.L. is divided into a First and Second Division. The prospect of brighter football and bigger gates might be ensured. Better standards would be set from the beginning to the end of the football season because, promotion and relegation would act as stimuli in the struggle for supremacy and survival.

Being a small country it's not difficult for a National League to function efficiently, and with aid from the newly set up Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, this ambition if it materialised, might well see better days for Malaysian soccer.

It sounds easy but it needs a blueprint, and this is what the administrators and the multitude need with urgency to prevent domestic soccer from going to the dogs. 1964 was depressing enough as far as domestic competition is concerned.

In the eyes of the sporting fraternity, the last Merdeka Tournament brought little prestige to the national team who finished in a not too proud position, albeit in the end, a profit of nearly $M95,000 was made.

In inter-state competitions, money problems crept in for the first time in many years. Trengganu couldn't afford to take part in the Malaya Cup while several Cup fixtures saw walk-overs by states facing similar plight, even mighty Selangor suffered with heavy deficit in their Cup outings.

Surprising enough, the two-zone system was blamed and the F.A.M. decided to revert to the former three-zone system. Wouldn't this be a return to the *ancien régime*?

No doubt the two-zone system inflicted greater travelling expenses on the states, as there were more away matches than before and therefore, more miles to cover.


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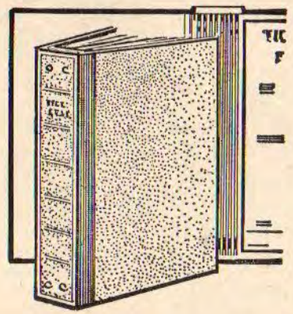

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Korean goalkeeper (nearest camera in black) fights off the persistent Burmese forwards in a Merdeka Soccer match last year which South Korea won 1-0 in Kuala Lumpur. (Planet.)

But thinking sanely, I feel that reverting to the three-zone system would not help in the least. Because the real problem lies not in transport, but in the dwindling crowds who have discovered that there are better entertainments to turn to elsewhere than watching mediocre soccer matches. Thus, lies the main factor and the reason why many coffers are much emptier than before.

If transport is such a good claim for lamentation then negotiation should be made with the M.C.Y.S. to start a subsidy scheme of some sort to cope with the situation.

Perhaps, one of these days, everybody would come to realise that a National League provides the best solution. And I would be particularly glad to see it implemented. Would the F.A.M.?

So much being said, it had not been all talk and no play, for there was one highlight in late November when Swedish club, Djurgaarden, came to play two matches.

Djurgaarden, victims of title-chasers, Manchester United, in the first round of the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup, flew in to play their first game at Ipoh, home ground of F.A.M. Cup Winners, Perak.

The tourists faced an F.A.M. Selection XI, comprising of players from the northern states, in dreary weather, and the result was a 2-0 win for the Scandinavians. Inside-right Persson scored both goals, in the twenty-fifth and sixty-first minutes. Terraces boasted of a mere 2,000 spectators.

The next day, off to Kuala Lumpur where Djurgaarden met another F.A.M. Selection XI, this time comprising of players from southern states, at the Merdeka Stadium.

The Swedes came unstuck in this match and they went down 2-1. Inside-right Majid Ariff put the home side into the lead in the thirty-seventh minute with an angular stiff shot and that was the score at half-time.

In the second half, the Swedes were determined to equalise and they did when L. O. Sandberg at inside-right used his head cleverly to guide the ball past seventeen-year-old 'keeper Chee Keong in the fiftieth minute. But three minutes later, a penalty kick by captain Robert Choe won the day for the Malaysians.

It was a well-contested game, but most significant were the brilliant displays of three up-and-coming youngsters, Ibrahim Mydin, Chow Chee Keong and Richard Choe, younger brother of Robert the skipper.

In each game, Malaysia fielded different teams and for good reason too. As 1965 would witness two important events, mentioned earlier, team-building must be taken into consideration. The ill-prepared team of the previous year and the poor results have been a lesson. But whether all these are being taken seriously is left to be seen.

## *When Should Stars Retire?*

● *Continued from page 14*

Tom Finney, from this point of view, timed his retirement perfectly. A man who never put on a pound, always kept wonderfully fit, he proved in friendly matches for several years after his retirement that he was still a player of world class. It was particularly interesting that he, a player who to some extent grew up in Matthews's shadow, was so often compared with him, for better or worse, should not be lured on by the will o' the wisp of Matthews's longevity.

Perhaps it would be best for other players to look upon Matthews as a unique phenomenon.

But this advice is easier to give than to take. How does a player *know* it is time to retire? Few can be as detached and mature about it as was Bernard Joy, an Arsenal and England centre-half long before he was a football writer. He asked Tom Whittaker, Arsenal's trainer and later Arsenal's manager, to tell him when he felt the time had come to retire. Whittaker did tell him; and Joy retired.

But here, again, it would be wrong to push the analogy with Di Stefano. Joy was an amateur, and a very good player, rather than a great one. He had had his many satisfactions from the game; now he could turn for fulfilment elsewhere. One cannot imagine Di Stefano, imperious and self-sufficient, turning to anyone else for such advice.

### Glorious

One wonders how long he will go on, wishes he had given up after a glorious Final—the 1962 Final against Benfica, perhaps—hopes, without much confidence, that his example will encourage other players to retire in time. But I don't suppose they will. Footballers, like many other human beings, tend to use such examples for their own purposes. If they think of anybody, it will probably be Matthews.

## Hibs toy with New York States offer

by JOHN STONE

**HIBS, who did so much to pioneer Scottish football abroad in the early 1950s, are deciding whether or not to accept an invitation to tour America — with the New York Hungarians club extending the invitation.**

### Best season

The Easter Road club, having its best season for years, are hoping they will be going to the States anyway, as Scotland's representatives in the New York tournament.

We'll probably have to wait until that role is filled before knowing Hibs' reply to the offer.


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# A PARODY FOR PARAGUAY

**ONE of the world's least known soccer outposts is Paraguay, who enjoyed an all too brief period in the sun during 1958, when they surprised everyone by beating Uruguay for a place in the World Cup Finals. They then went to Sweden where they beat Scotland 3-2, drew 3-3 with Yugoslavia and went down 3-7 to France who went on to take third place in the series.**

To most readers Paraguay will be unknown save for their traditional champions the Olimpia Club of Asuncion, who have frequently appeared in the South American championship. But scratching beneath the surface of European football one finds a great many links with this small country, completely cut off from the rest of the world by Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil. Their only links with the outside football world are a tiny airline, the Rio Paraguay, which meanders through Argentina and finally reaches the Atlantic via the River Plate, and the sports pages of their small government controlled newspapers.

The country is poor — a poverty beyond the understanding of most Europeans — with electric light and running water practically unknown. There is hardly any industry, and 90 per cent of the population are direct descendants of the Guarani Indians who lived there before the coming of the Conquistadores. The Spaniards came, and conquered, but finding nothing to interest them, moved on, leaving behind only their language which has now blended with the local tongue to form a new Guarani-Castillian.

### *Fit enough*

Luckily, they have football, and lacking almost everything else, most of the country's 1,700,000 follow it and watch it, while those young enough and fit enough throw themselves into the game with a wholehearted energy that is now hard to find in the modern world.

In Asuncion one finds the wealthy few, owning Cadillacs and Chryslers imported from the United States, while the masses walk barefoot. The bulk of the football is barefoot naturally, disorganised, spontaneous but dedicated. On any piece of waste ground, a "match" might begin at any moment — no referee, just a ball and players, within seconds a crowd assembles to watch. If the European game had to exist in such circumstances today, it would surely die, but in Paraguay, as in the greater part of Latin America, futbol is the *raison d'être*, their hope for the future.

A moment's thought, and a little research will produce a string of names — players who've made the game in Europe — Arce, probably the first Paraguayan export, Romero, Parodi, Lezcano, Achucarro, Aguero and many more, backed by Eulogio Martinez, once Spain's top scorer with Barcelona and now with Atletico Madrid, while at this moment the new Barcelona spearhead, Cayetano Re, a product of Cerro Porteno, tops the scorers' list in the Spanish First Division. If these players can establish themselves in the European game then surely Paraguay has a bright future, yet keeping the players at home has proved one of their greatest problems.

## COUNTRY FOCUS by ERIC BATTY

Because the clubs cannot afford to pay — the only real exception to this is Olimpia — the F.A. makes no distinction between amateur and professional. They are all players, paid if the club can afford, but never well, and the clubs are therefore powerless to prevent them leaving when they attract the attention of scouts from Argentina, Peru, Italy and Spain.

The scouts don't often go to Asuncion, but when Paraguay produces an unusually good side for the World Cup or the South American championship they descend like vultures. In 1953, Paraguay excelled herself in winning the unofficial South American championship at Lima, and only two of the twenty players who made the trip remained in Paraguay. Among the emigrants was Heriberto Herrera, centre-half star of Atletico Madrid in the 'fifties, and now boss of Juventus. Five years later, Paraguay had a new team, which ousted Uruguay from the World Cup, displayed their talents in Sweden, and then ceded most of the players to Spanish clubs.

### *Superhuman*

The players went, and Paraguay got nothing, after making a superhuman effort to send their team to Sweden. The 5-0 win over Uruguay in Asuncion was a great success, and though they lost in Montevideo, little Colombia chipped in by holding the Uruguayans to a draw in Bogota, and Paraguay were through to the finals ... if they could raise the money to send their team to Sweden. The Government organised a national sweepstake, with the profits handed to the F.A. to help; wealthy families made contributions and a cigarette company produced a new brand and handed on the proceeds. Training games were arranged against club sides, and the fans paid to watch. Enough was raised to send twenty-two players, two officials, two trainers, a manager ... and one journalist.

Inevitably, the Paraguayan game revolves around Asuncion, the only sizeable town with a mere 250,000 people. It was here that football was first introduced by a Dutch businessman, William Plaats, towards the end of the last century. Unlike Buenos Aires, where the game was practically reserved for the sons of well-to-do families at first, in Asuncion it was at once taken up by the peasants. The earliest clubs formed around 1898 included several still in existence today, Olimpia, Nacional, Libertad, Guarani and General Diaz.

In 1906 the Liga Paraguaya was formed — in reality the Football Association. Much later the Liga gave birth to the Union de Futbol del Interior which controls the regional competitions which now administer for more than 80,000 registered players scattered throughout the country, and still a subsidiary committee of the Liga Paraguaya.

The Liga Paraguaya inevitably centred on Asuncion in the early days, and for many years it was limited to local clubs. Until the last decade only eight clubs competed in the Liga fixture list of fourteen games. The game went on, however, as it still does, practically round the year, and when one season ends another begins.

Before the official League programme began a friendly series was staged — adding another fourteen matches. First, the Torneo Preliminar, then the official Liga, and finally the top six teams played off for another championship, a Cup, the Trofeo Cuidad Asuncion.

## PARAGUAY—Facts and Figures

- Liga Paraguaya formed in 1906.
- First Division has two regional sections; one with ten clubs, the other 11.
- Second Division has 18 clubs in two sections.
- Union de Futbol del Interior controls remaining competitions under the Liga's guidance. 80,000 registered players.
- South American Championship winners 1953.
- Leading club: Olimpia of Asuncion.
- Season extends throughout the year.
- Liga Paraguaya have their own ground in Asuncion which is used for internationals and Cup Finals. Capacity: 17,000 (uncovered accommodation only).

Today the game has grown in every direction, though many clubs still exist on attendances as low as 2,000 and admission prices are often just a few pence.

The First Division has been extended to two sections on a regional basis, ten clubs in one section, eleven in the other, and a Second Division has been added with eighteen clubs in two sections, again on a regional basis. Beneath this spreads the Union de Futbol del Interior, with approximately 650 clubs.

The game still goes on throughout the year, though the big clubs break off for the month of December, which is given over to the minor leagues. The final stages of the regional play-offs involving matters of promotion and relegation are staged in Asuncion, and usually well supported. These games are staged at the Liga Paraguaya's own stadium, the venue for International matches and Cup Finals. The stadium itself is primitive, with room for 17,000 but few seats and no cover at all, fortunately the climate is sub-tropical and rain is rare.

### *Affiliated*

At the international level, Paraguayan Tours are rare, but since 1925 Paraguay has been affiliated to F.I.F.A. Four years earlier, they had made the 700 mile trip to Buenos Aires for the South American championship, and beaten Uruguay 2-1. The following year, 1922, Paraguay were runners-up, and although they don't compete in every season for financial reasons, they've been second on three other occasions, in 1947, 1949 and 1963. 1953 marked their greatest achievement, however—champions of South America, winning the title, but losing twenty players in Lima.

Apart from the World Cup, Paraguay's only regular internationals are for the Cups first presented in the 1920s, but now staged infrequently. Between Paraguay and Argentina—the Copa Rosa Chevalier Boutell, between Paraguay and Brazil, the Copa Oswaldo Cruz, though often the Brazilians are too busy with other things, and the Argentinians often fall out diplomatically with Paraguay. This leaves the Atlantic Cup, between Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, and the South American championship every four years.

### *Pastimes*

The chances of the Paraguayans establishing themselves amongst the aristocrats of the game in South America are slim, for though they have a deep well of talent, an enthusiastic people with no other pastimes, and a fierce love for their futbol, resources are thinly spread, money is hard to find, and when a handful of better than average players push their heads above the general level they are tempted away to Buenos Aires, Rome, Paris, Seville.

The problems facing the Paraguayan game were emphasised in a recent interview, given by the President of the Liga Paraguaya de Futbol, Dr. Anastasias Mendoza Sanchez. First, finance, with the F.A.'s aim of building a new modern stadium, to be known as the Estadio de Sajonia. If and when completed, there would be room for 60,000 people, floodlights and modern equipment, but raising the necessary finance will be a real problem. The only hope, says Dr. Sanchez, is an F.A. sponsored Football Pool organised on European lines. The idea is new, however the mass of the people have little money to spare, and have so far only been offered occasional lotteries.

EULOGIO MARTINEZ. (Metelmann.)

The second problem of the immediate future is to retain the country's best players for the bid to reach the finals of the 1966 World Cup. The task appears well-nigh impossible, for Paraguay's opponents are Argentina, modernised, and backed by financial resources which the Paraguayans can only dream about. Even Bolivia presents a major problem, for their matches are staged at La Paz, more than 10,000 feet above sea level. In the rarefied atmosphere temporary visitors are affected to an incredible degree, and while the Argentinian F.A. can afford to send their squad to La Paz a fortnight before their match, not so the Paraguayans. To save hotel bills, they must go at the last possible moment, flying in the day before the match.

It seems impossible that Paraguay can qualify, but surely no less a feat than their qualifying in 1958? In Asuncion, their team is rated as good as the squads of 1953 and 1958, and in charge of the preparations is a man who by local standards has seen everything the game has to offer, Don Manuel Agustin de Fleitas Solich. Sixty-two years old, a former player in Asuncion, he later starred for Boca Juniors and Racing, Buenos Aires, and as a coach has worked in Argentina, Brazil and Spain. After six years with Flamengo (Rio), Solich joined Real Madrid, but his greatest claim to fame was his feat of 1953 when he steered unknown Paraguaya to their only success in the South American championship.

To succeed is to court disaster as far as Paraguay is concerned, for even if they eliminate Argentina, the big Buenos Aires clubs would surely tempt their best players away, ensuring that Paraguay made no progress in England, and holding back still more firmly the development of the Paraguayan game.

---

# FALLING 'GATES' HIT MALTA

by REM SACCO

**ATTENDANCES for local football matches are still on the decline. The Malta F.A. had decreased the number of clubs in the First Division from eight to seven, and next season these will be further reduced to six, maintaining that by so doing the standard of play and interest will be raised.**

However, no less than 30,000 have stayed away from the terraces this term, compared with the same first three months of the previous season.

The filming on the Italian TV for forty-five minutes of a Serie "A" league match every Sunday has contributed in no small measure to this decline. People prefer to go out in the afternoon with their families, returning later in the evening to watch Juventus, Internazionale, Milan and the other élite of the Italian league.

The management of the Stadium and the Malta F.A. organised the once popular Christmas tourney, by inviting the Austrian crack side First Vienna to play three matches locally, but even this tourney did not set houses on fire and it is calculated that the organisers lost about £300 from the venture.

First Vienna with such international players as centre-half Koller, capped eighty-one times, and goalkeeper Krauschoefr returned home unbeaten, having won 1-0 against Hibernians and Valletta and drawing 2-2 their last match against Champions Sliema Wanderers, now under the care of former Hungarian player Janos Bedl.

# FRENCH CUP SEES HAPPY SURPRISES...

**THE New Year saw the first round of the French Cup and happy surprises for the underdogs. To start with, newly-promoted Toulon (at one time head of the First Division and then bottom following six successive defeats) eliminated Cup holders Lyon, second in the Championship. Although it needed extra time for the enthusiastic Toulon side with some outstanding young players to score the only goal of the match, their victory was nonetheless well-merited.**

★

**Cup holders Lyon are soon out this time**

★

To complete a double unprecedented in the annals of French football, last season's losing finalists — Bordeaux, currently top of the First Division — were defeated by the cultured Nantes side 3-2 in Paris. Nantes' victory was the outstanding performance of the day for they were two goals down after thirty minutes of play! But they have cool heads in Brittany. Only a week before Nantes had been involved in a bitter match — which they won 3-1 — against Normandy rivals Rouen.

### Resemble

The referee announced at half-time, after cautioning the Rouen side, that he would not continue the match since the defensive and ungentlemanly conduct of the Rouen players, whose continuous felling of the deft Nantes forwards made the field resemble a bowling alley, turned the game into a farce. It has yet to be decided if the match will be replayed for although a linesman took over the referee's job and completed the game the laws provide that this should happen only when the referee is incapacitated. He clearly was not incapacitated. He did, however, make an excellent demonstration of hostility to what has become known in France as the *anti-jeu* — the "anti-game" — now practised increasingly by many sides and not just those in desperate League straits. With the exception of Nantes, with the most goals in the League this season, St. Etienne and the young Nimes side amongst the leaders, the bad example of primarily destructive play with a hard-tackling defence is the current style of Bordeaux, Lyon and Valenciennes.

The Cup also saw the particularly meritorious elimination of two Second Division sides by amateurs: Victory by the Pierrots of Strasbourg over Besançon by 2-0 and Amiens over Boulogne (after extra time); other Amateur clubs live to fight a replay. Top score of the day for a change went to Paris Club Stade Français, who outplayed the amateurs from Champagne 9-2 with Swiss international Pottier top individual scorer of the day with four goals.

A hat-trick by Gori of Rouen helped the Normandy side to go nap against Racing Club of Paris. Paul Sauvage, Valenciennes left-winger, also scored three times. Poor crowds were doubtless a result of the rainy weather and the fact that all French cup-ties, from the time the professional sides come in, are played on neutral grounds. Biggest crowd of the day was at Marseille — 22,000 — to see Nimes and Nice draw 2-2.

### Contacts

If the French turned towards the New Year with fresh expectations and with an eye cast firmly on Belgrade where in mid-April they must renew contacts with their old enemy, the Jugoslavs, in the World Cup eliminating round, they also turned forward a little in disgust. 1964 ended for the French with a sound thrashing, 3-0, at the hands of their traditional neighbourhood rivals, Belgium. It was not so much the fact of the defeat which upset the French (after all they have only won two games out of thirteen played since 1962!) but the manner.

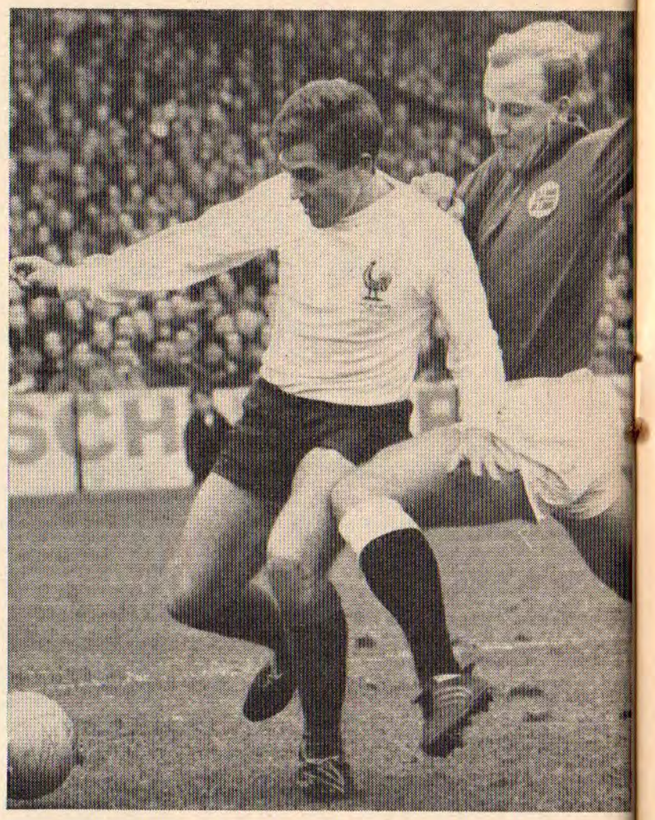
After winning their first two World Cup eliminating matches, however unconvincingly 2-0 and 1-0 against Luxembourg and Norway respectively, the French with more or less the same side were toyed with and taught a football lesson in Brussels. And this by a Belgian side composed in the main by players from the Anderlecht side which had been dismissed from the European Cup by a Liverpool said to be searching for the form that gave them the League Championship last season!

Incidentally, a mere 10,000 bothered to turn up for the game. Goals by Van Himst and Vermeyen (two) enabled the Belgians to play much of the game at walking pace.

The teams were:

**Belgium:** Nicolay (Standard); Heylens (Anderlecht), Verbiest (Anderlecht), Plaskie (Anderlecht), Cornelis (Anderlecht); Gerard Sulon (F.C. Liège), Jurion (Anderlecht); Vermeyen (Lierse), Van Himst (Anderlecht), Vandenberg (Union St. Gilloise) and Puis (Anderlecht).

**France:** Aubour (Lyon); Bosquier (Sochaux), Artelesa (Monaco), Charles-Alfred (Nimes), Chorda (Bordeaux); Bonnel (Valenciennes), Ferrier (St. Etienne); Lech (Lens), Guy (St. Etienne), Baraffe (Toulouse), Sauvage (Valenciennes).



On international duty against Belgium was Lens winger Lech, seen here on the left of the picture in action with Norwegian Thorsen. (Planet.)

## *Paris Newsletter by Jerry Weinstein*





# EUROPEAN COMMENTARY

● *Continued from page 13*

on Sofia's dropped point when they were themselves beaten by Red Banner by the odd goal in five. Levski beat Slavia to draw level with them on points but a victory for Beroe took that club back to third place. The three leaders all won their fourteenth matches as did Slavia to take fourth place. Red Banner could only draw again—against Vratza who now had fifteen points—the same as Levski and Red Banner themselves.

### Rivals

Then in the final matches before the winter break, Loko Sofia suffered their second defeat of the season when they lost to Cernomore (3-1) — and again Lokomotiv Plovdiv at a time when their rivals were losing points were themselves defeated—3-0 by Levski. Red Banner and Beroe met and drew one-all. Slavia also drew but Vratza were defeated. The leading clubs were thus: Lokomotiv Sofia twenty-three points, Loko Plovdiv twenty, Beroe nineteen, Slavia eighteen, Levski seventeen, and Red Banner and Spartak Plovdiv both sixteen points.

With fifteen matches making up the programme there is an inevitable imbalance with some clubs playing eight of their matches at home and others only seven. One of those playing eight at home were Levski—one of the Sofia clubs in the First Division. The aggregate attendance at these eight matches was 452,000 spectators — an average of 56,500 per match! Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, naturally attracts the highest attendances —Red Banner had an aggregate of over 400,000 and Slavia more than 350,000, but Lokomotiv Plovdiv pulled in nearly 320,000 spectators for an average of around 40,000—and the population of Plovdiv is only 140,000! Football watching is booming in Bulgaria and so, with a very young national team, is football playing. The battle between Bulgaria and Belgium (with Israel the "outsider") for a place in the 1966 World Cup finals in England is likely to be amongst the most exciting of all the qualifying contests.

# Flashes from F.I.F.A. and U.E.F.A.

THE two remaining national associations from Africa, Algeria and Libya, withdrew from the preliminary competition for the 1966 World Cup, leaving no representative from this part of the world.

★ ★ ★

A TOURNAMENT for the youth teams of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland will take place in Sweden from July 18 to 24, 1965.

MR. Antoine Chiarisoli, President of the French Football Federation and member of the F.I.F.A. Executive Committee, was awarded the decoration of "Officier dans l'Ordre de la Legion d'Honneur".

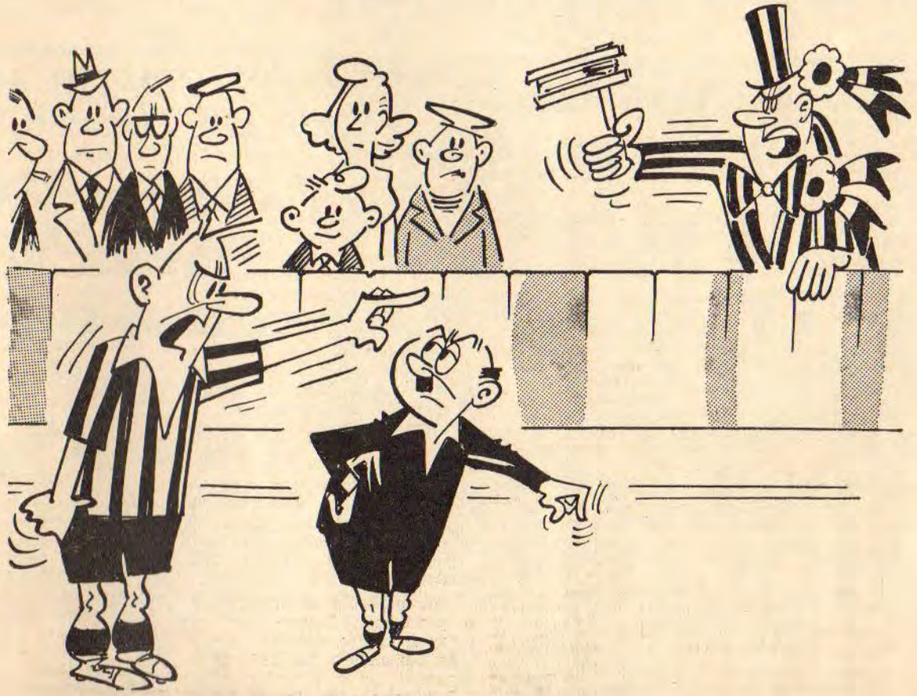
★ ★ ★

ON January 25, Mr. Pedro Escartin, Madrid, began his twenty-fifth year as a member of the Referees Committee of F.I.F.A.

★ ★ ★

THIS year's Youth Tournament organised by U.E.F.A. will be held in Germany at Easter.

# World Soccer Cartoon Competition — Winner



**"Why shouldn't he use foul language—you've blown for a foul!" (Winning entry from Colin Hawkins, 26 Valiant Avenue, West Park, Plymouth, Devon, who receives a six months' subscription to "World Soccer".)**

# SPOTLIGHT ON SPAIN IN 1964

● Continued from page 21

But the most effective are Pereda (CFB), with twelve caps, and Amancio, with eight. Pereda, now twenty-five, after being in and out of the international reckoning for some years, has at last established himself at inside-right. He scored against Hungary and the USSR, both fierce shots, and brought a fabulous save out of Yachin. But it was his persistence that paid in the Final. Mudrk harried him down to the corner-flag, and with a centre apparently impossible, Pereda twisted on one leg and kicked the ball across as he fell. Yachin was caught on his line, and Marcelino catapulted himself forward to head home.

Amancio Amado Varela, twenty-six, came from the Suarez "school" at Coruna to Real Madrid two years ago for £30,000. Amancio has all the brilliant footwork of Raymond Kopa, a remarkable turn of speed, and a fine shot. This makes him the best all-round forward to emerge in Spain for several years. Real have been using him at inside-right of late —he scored a hat-trick against Dukla Prague in a European Cup-tie—but his lack of inches keep him on the right wing for internationals.

One useful player in reserve, winger Enrique Collar, is out of the game with a broken leg, but the depth of talent is increasing. Another wing, "Esparol" Ufarte, has been transferred from Flamengo to Atletico Madrid for £35,000 and, despite living in Brazil for twenty years, is presumably eligible for the national team through his birth of Spanish parents at Pontevedra. He played for Spain "B" in a 3-0 win over Portugal at Cordoba and proved an outstanding success.

The usual see-saw effect of the fortunes of club and country seems to have been finally dispelled. Barcelona, with four current internationals, had their best season for some time; Zaragoza, also with four, won the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup and the Spanish Cup; Real Madrid, League Champions, have discovered some fresh talent in their efforts to recapture Europe's premier trophy — De Felipe (twenty), Serena (twenty-three), Grosso (twenty), and Pirri (twenty-two). Of these Ramon Moreno Grosso, a product of the youth team, has proved a worthy successor at centre-forward to Alfredo Di Stefano. His display against Portugal "B", when he scored a goal, was described by one Portuguese sportswriter as "fantastic" and "demoralising".

José Villalonga must be feeling pleased with the performances of 1964, even if the late defeat by Portugal did blot the European Champions' copybook. It is too early to predict success for Spain in the World Cup, although the fortuitous grouping with Eire and Syria makes their qualification well-nigh certain. But the team is more settled and better balanced than at any time since 1960, when the average age was much higher. Only Amancio, and, when they play, Suarez and Del Sol are in world class, but several of the others should improve beyond all recognition by 1966. Villalonga left the Spanish Army, where he was a major, to resuscitate Spanish football. Morale in his new corps could not be higher.

## BOOK REVIEW

NOEL Cantwell, one of Britain's most accomplished and colourful soccer characters, relates the story of his life, from his days as a monastery schoolboy to captain of Eire and Manchester United, in his autobiography — **United We Stand** (Stanley Paul, 18s.).

In this extremely enjoyable and easy to read book, Cantwell talks of the value of good soccer coaching and discloses his ideals about football; some of which are bound to arouse controversy.

Cantwell devotes several chapters to some of the great players who have been his colleagues at Manchester United, including Denis Law and Bobby Charlton.

A foreword to the book is written by Manchester United manager, Matt Busby, who predicts that when Noel Cantwell is forced to call it a day as a player, he is going to carve himself a new future as a great manager.

In the more immediate future I predict that Noel Cantwell is going to enjoy an outstanding success with *United We Stand*. In my opinion, it is one of the most interesting soccer stories to hit the bookstalls for a long time.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## "STOPPER" CENTRE-HALF CAUSE OF THE CRISIS

● Continued from page 25

The three Swedes then went to become professionals in Italy. In 1950–51 this trio led AC Milan to the championship, and with Juventus importing Hansen and Praest they ran riot. Lesser clubs had no chance, and in three campaigns, Juventus scored goals so freely something had to be done to stop these goal-scoring machines. At this time AC Milan hit 312 goals in three seasons; Juventus got 301 and Inter scored 292 in the same period.

Facing great players, other clubs knew the only way to stop them was by double-marking and once found to be successful, other clubs joined in. The result inevitably was catenaccio with two centre-halves—one marking the centre-forward tight, and the other standing back behind the defence to cover. The era of negative football is now with us, firmly and irrevocably. Chapman started it all, by pulling back the attacking centre-half to become a stopper and the Italians took it on to the next logical step.

The problem can be simply put. It is how to penetrate a defence in which every opposing forward is tightly marked, and in which the free-back, standing behind the centre-half, is now the king-pin. It is related to offside, only through being a natural descendant of the old offside-trap, for a team playing an offside game leaves a space behind the defenders into which forwards are drawn and caught offside. Catenaccio is diametrically opposed to offside, for in this kind of defence they leave no spaces.

### Desirable

The only way in which the Laws could be used to defeat catenaccio would be an unworkable one, in which the number of players allowed into their own defensive zone, i.e. beyond a line drawn across the field forty yards from goal, would be limited to four or perhaps five. It couldn't work, and wouldn't be desirable anyway, but for the future of the game a way must be found to beat the packed defence, and next month I hope to go into this.

# The World in Action

Excited Spanish players of the Real Zaragoza club cluster round the referee in protest after their goalkeeper Yarza (left on ground) has been injured. (M.P.I.)

# 36 years of talent in opposition during Sir Stan's return

When Sir Stanley Matthews made his return to League football with Stoke City for the first time in over a year he was 50 years old. In direct opposition to him was Jim Langley the Fulham full-back who was a day short of his 36th birthday! (Mac. I.)

# CAUSE FOR SOME REJOICING DOWN ARGENTINA WAY

**REPORT FROM SOUTH AMERICA**

**by GORDON JEFFERY**

**ARGENTINA'S recovery after a period of failure in International football is continuing: indeed the convincing manner with which, against Brazil, Portugal and England, they set about last summer's Four Nations Tournament in Brazil suggests that the recovery is nearly complete and, barring the renewed exportation of their better players, the Argentine could be a considerable force in the final stages of the 1966 World Cup. Certainly their full International record in 1964 is an impressive one:**

**May 31:**
Argentina 2, Portugal 0—in Rio.
**June 3:**
Brazil 0, Argentina 3—in Sao Paulo.
**June 6:**
Argentina 1, England 0—in Rio.
**Sept. 24:**
Argentina 5, Chile 0—in Buenos Aires.
**Oct. 14:**
Chile 1, Argentina 1—in Santiago.
**Nov. 25:**
Paraguay 3, Argentina 0—in Asuncion.
**Dec. 8:**
Argentina 8, Paraguay 1—in Buenos Aires.

The single blemish was in the first leg of the annual (except when other national, or, more likely perhaps, club commitments make it impossible) competition for the Rosa Chevalier Boutell Cup. The team that went to Asuncion was a strong one. Ediberto Righi had taken over in goal from the veteran River Plate player, Carrizo, after the tournament matches in Brazil and had played in both matches against Chile, as had right-back, Adolfo Vazquez. Both Righi and Vazquez play for Banfield.

The left-back at Asuncion was a newcomer—Leonardi of Ferro Carril Oeste, but Antonio Rattin at right-half and Jose Ramos Delgado at centre-half had both been ever-presents for Argentina in the Four-Nations Tournament in Brazil and in both Carlos Dittborn Cup matches against Chile, and although Albrecht, one of the discoveries of the 1963 South American Championships, was making his first appearance of 1964 at Asuncion, he had in fact been selected for the matches in Brazil. (He was removed from the party at the behest of his club, San Lorenzo, who advised the Argentinian F.A. that the club had cancelled the player's contract — presumably the breach was subsequently healed.)

### Substitute

The defence, in other words, was only marginally below full strength and every forward at the kick-off had previous International experience. Luna of Atlanta, who had come on as substitute for Mario Chaldu in the Santiago match against Chile, was at outside-right with the oft-time centre-forward, Daniel Willington, as his partner. Alfredo Rojas—inside-left in all three matches in Brazil and against Chile in Santiago—led the line until Paraguay scored their third goal a quarter of an hour from the final whistle. Then San Lorenzo's Victorio Casa came on for his first appearance at centre-forward but he too had been with the party in Brazil although not called upon to play. Finally, Ermindo Onega (a 1964 ever-present) was at inside-left with Adolfo Bielli his partner. Bielli of Estudiantes had played against Portugal in Rio and in both matches against Chile.

Paraguay are very much of an unknown quantity these days. In 1962 they acted as sparring partners for Brazil a month before the World Cup holders began the successful defence of their title in Chile but those two matches were the sum total of Paraguayan activity. 1963 was altogether busier when, after friendly matches against Bolivia and a Brazilian selection, Paraguay put up a very good show in the South American Championships when they finished second to the host country, Bolivia. Brazil and, to a much lesser extent, Argentina, admittedly sent along weak teams.

Finally at the end of 1963, Paraguay, as in 1964, played home and away matches against Argentina in the Rosa Chevalier Boutell Cup. Then, as on this occasion, the first match was played in Paraguay. Argentina were the victors in 1963 by four goals to nil but then, in Buenos Aires, Paraguay gained a most surprising odd goal in five victory. Perhaps, in retrospect, for Paraguay to triumph at home to Argentina was not so surprising as it first appeared.

### Maintained

What was surprising was the composition of the Paraguayan team. Of the fourteen players who appeared in the two matches against Argentina in 1964, only Idolino Monges and Antonio Insfran of the defenders have maintained any long period of regular appearances and only Eliseo Insfran of the attack. I made a rough comparison between the players who had appeared against Brazil in 1962 and those who took part in the more extensive 1963 programme: only eight of 1962's fourteen were amongst the thirty who played during 1963. Yet the line-ups against Argentina in November and December 1964 again bristles with new names like Galarza in goal, and Bordon, Perez, Rojas and Herrera in defence. Monges, as mentioned, remained on duty and there was a recall (from 1961) for Francisco Reyes.

Of the forwards, the most experienced player, Eliseo Insfran, made only a first-half appearance in the home match against Argentina, then he was replaced at inside-right by Pavon—who had played in the 1963 matches against Argentina but not in the

Captains meet: Popluhar (5) of the Czechoslovakian team in the Santiago tournament and Ramos Delgado of River Plate (right). The referee is Rafael Hormazabal. (Planet.)

River Plate the runners-up in the Hexagonal Tournament in Chile. Back row left to right: (players only): Bonzuck, Varacka, Cap, Gatty, Delgado, Sainz. Front: Solari, Matosas, Laliana, Sarnari, Mas. (Planet.)

South American Championships. Ramirez, a substitute centre-forward in the second match against Argentina in 1963, played at right-wing; Candia was centre-forward, Ubaldi was inside-left and Garcia outside-left.

Garcia's combined play with Candia was a feature of Paraguay's three-nil victory at Asuncion and resulted directly in goals in the thirty-second and seventy-fifth minutes. Ubaldi, switching with Ramirez, was the scorer of Paraguay's other goal —in the forty-second minute.

## Unchanged

Argentina made changes for the return match. Roma was in goal and his Boca clubmate, Silvio Marzolini, was at left-back. The remainder of the defence was unchanged but, although Luna and Bielli were still on the wings and Onega at inside-left, Pedro Prospitti and Luis Artime came in at inside-right and centre-forward respectively. The play soon indicated that Paraguay's three-nil victory a fortnight ago was a fluke. Five minutes were enough for Argentina to take the lead when Onega gave Artime the pass for the centre-forward to score easily. Six minutes later Onega himself scored a brilliant solo goal after beating three defenders. Just before the half-hour Bielli tricked Bordon and crossed the ball for Artime to slip past 'keeper Glarza, and two minutes from the interval Prospitti, again from an Onega pass, put Argentina four up—and ahead on aggregate.

Immediately after the restart. Samaniego who had come on as substitute at inside-left for Ubaldi, laid on a chance that Pavon took to reduce Paraguay's arrears but in a hectic spell between the thirty-second and forty-fourth minutes of the second half Argentina added four more goals through Artime, Prospitti, Artime and Onega in that order—and an 8-1 victory was an encouraging conclusion to Argentina's 1964 programme!

Paraguay and Argentina meet again this year in the World Cup Qualifying Competition—Bolivia are the third country in the group — but before battle commences in Asuncion on July 25 (and all six matches are due to be completed by the end of August) Paraguay have planned a European tour in May that is scheduled to take in Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany. One wishes them a happy tour but it can hardly be expected that it will be in anticipation of a more important visit to Europe in 1966. That surely will be Argentina's role.

## Off-season tournaments

Throughout South America, although club sides continue to participate in the off-season tournaments they need to gather revenue, there is a growing emphasis on preparations for the 1966 World Cup. Uruguay, for example, have arranged an imposing series of matches before, between and after their qualifying matches with Peru and Venezuela. The full programme is as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| April | 19: | v. | Argentina in Montevideo (not yet confirmed). |
| ,, | 25: | v. | Paraguay in Asuncion (Artigas Cup). |
| May | 2: | v. | Paraguay in Montevideo (Artigas Cup). |
| ,, | 9: | v. | Chile in Montevideo (Pintos Duran Cup). |
| ,, | 16: | v. | Chile in Santiago (Pintos Duran Cup). |
| ,, | 23: | v. | Venezuela in Montevideo (W.C. Qual.). |
| ,, | 30: | v. | Venezuela in Caracas (W.C. Qual.). |
| June | 6: | v. | Peru in Lima (W.C. Qual.). |

● *Continued on page 42*

Santos and Brazilian international goalkeeper Gilmar will be seen in Europe again this summer—see Gordon Jeffrey's article. (O.)

The incomparable Pele who starred for Santos in the tournament in Chile which Gordon Jeffery ends his South American Commentary with this month. (Planet.)

# AROUND THE WORLD STORIES

## BRAZIL

PREPARING for the 1966 World Cup, the CBD have released the names of forty-four possibles, half of whom will come to Europe in June, when matches are planned against Morocco, Portugal and Sweden. West Germany, Czechoslovakia and Holland are also eager to meet Brazil, if suitable dates can be arranged. The plans for 1966 are already settled. On June 10, the Brazilian squad flies from Rio to Sweden where they will stay until moving on to Manchester on July 4, and among their probable opponents in training games are Denmark and Sweden which will be possible under F.I.F.A. rules only if these two countries fail to reach the World Cup Finals. In addition to the forty-four, CBD President Joao Havelange has also made it known that several exports will be invited to join the party in Sweden, including Jair da Costa (Inter), Amarildo (AC Milan), Waldo (Valencia) and Garrincha, if he joins Juventus next season.

Palmeiras AC, runners-up in last season's Sao Paulo championship behind Santos, have released thirty-year-old centre-forward Vava, who has joined the Mexican club America FC. Two other 1958 World Cup stars have announced their retirement, Nilton Santos (left-back) who has already quit, and Zagallo, the hard-working left-winger who plans to retire in July.

An International Tournament staged in Rio de Janeiro to celebrate the city's 400 years' existence, was won by Vasco da Gama. Watched by big crowds at the Maracana stadium, Vasco beat the East German National XI 3-2 while Flamengo (Rio champions) accounted for Atletico Madrid 1-0. In the Final, Vasco beat Flamengo 4-1, vindicating the reputation of their boss, Zeze Moreira.

## AUSTRIA

TRANSFER talk and the problems of the National team have marked the winter break in Vienna. Champions and league leaders (winter-meisters) SC Rapid have signed an inside-forward from Mexico, Eduardo Virba, who was formerly with Nexaca, and manager Franz Binder flew to Sofia in the hope of signing Bulgarian inside-forward star, Ivan Kolev. Now thirty-two, Kolev is perhaps past his best, and two years ago, he was told he could turn professional if he helped Bulgaria do well in the 1962 World Cup. Binder's problems are all in attack, and after Glasgow Rangers had eliminated Rapid from the European Cup he made this plain. Holding Rangers to 1-0 in Glasgow was easy, he said, the difficult part was to win in Vienna. They lost again 2-0!

Edi Fruhwirth, the new boss of the National squad, plans a fourteen-day trip for twenty-five players to Italy, where they can train and play without interference from the weather, but the players refused to go unless they were paid. Finally, although they would be paid as usual by their clubs, the F.A. agreed to 3,000 Schillings (£40) a man and the players agreed.

With Helmut Senekowitsch, back from Spain, a revelation with Wacker (Innsbruck) SC Wacker (Vienna) looked around for an old head to steer their uninspiring attack, and persuaded thirty-six-year-old Erich Probst to stage a come-back. Probst, a former Rapid star, played for Austria in the 1954 World Cup, and retired two years ago.

## PORTUGAL

THE World Cup campaign got off to a fine start, with a 5-1 win over Turkey. Eusebio hit three goals, ten days after helping the Portuguese Army win 4-0 against Greece, and once more hitting a hat-trick. With twenty-two league goals from Benfica's first thirteen games, Eusebio is fancied to break the existing goal-scoring record held since the 1940s by Sporting Lisbon's Peyroto. His best tally for one campaign was forty.

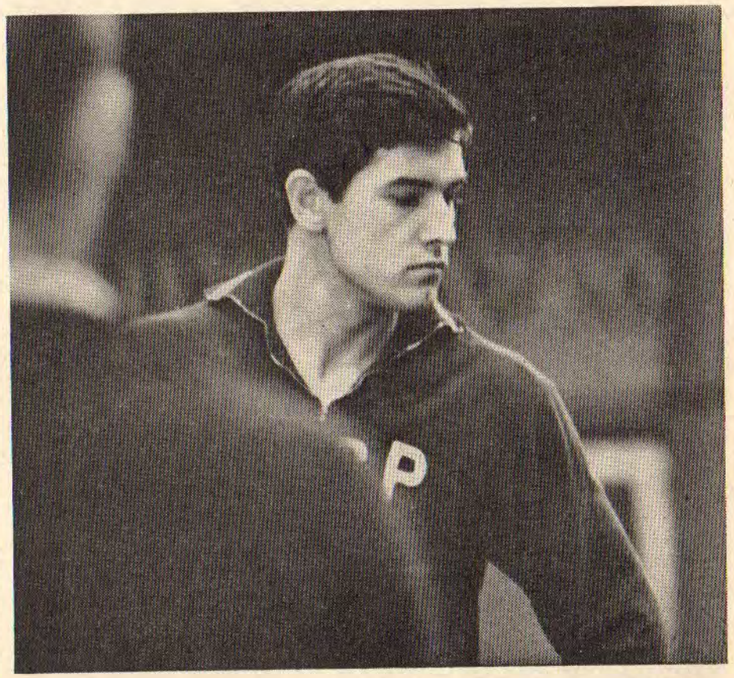
In the league race it's still Benfica, four points clear at the top, with Academica twenty-one points and two more, FC Porto and CUF, another point behind. Academica, the team of Coimbra University, are the surprise of the season, with two well-known inside-forwards the top stars, ex-international Rocha, and Humberto, the former Inter and Lanerossi player taken to Italy by Helenio Herrera. Humberto is now in his third year as a medical student.

Sporting Lisbon delighted their fans with a first minute goal in the derby against Benfica, and finally held on to draw 2-2. Though well behind in the championship race, their relegation fears are over. Still without a manager, three names are being linked with the club — Ramallets (ex-Zaragoza), Travacos, Sporting's former inside-forward star, and Bela Guttmann, now seventy, but staying for some weeks in Lisbon.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

WITH Chile coach, Rudolf Vytlacil, now working in Bulgaria, the F.A. needed a replacement to work under Dr. Vaclav Jira, selector/manager of the National side. None of the well-known coaches were interested — they prefer well-paid jobs with the top clubs, and finally Josef Marko was appointed. A former international, Marko played for Spartak Trnava, and like Jira, was a centre-half. Making use of the winter-break (the ice-hockey season) the National squad flew off to South America for a month, under the Czech League XI label.

With their pre-war name Slavia now restored, Dynamo Prague are making a determined bid to regain their First Division place by signing several established players. They already have Lala, right-back in the World Cup, who has been with them all along, and recently signed Kadraba (centre-forward in Chile) from Kladno; Vesely, a young outside-right from Dukla, and "B" international Pisa from CKD Prague. Transfers have been commonplace this season, unusual in Czech circles where moves are frowned on and difficult to arrange. The biggest surprise was the transfer of Adolf Scherer (inside-right in the World Cup) from Slovnaft Bratislava to Second Division Lokomotiva Kaschau.



Russia's Footballer of the Year Valeri Voronin of Torpedo Moscow taken in pensive mood. (Planet.)



## ITALY

UNBEATEN through nineteen league games, AC Milan are romping towards the championship seven points clear of the field. Inter in second place have been hard hit by injuries — goalkeeper Sarti has been out for several weeks, and not likely to return before March, while Jair, usually HH's number two goal-striker, has had several injuries. Meanwhile, Juventus are hanging on in third place one point behind Inter — to the relief of their trainer, Heriberto Herrera, who was much criticised for his methods early in the campaign. Down at the foot of the table, Mantova seem booked for the drop into Serie "B", bottom by a good margin, and having scored only eight goals in nineteen games.

AS Roma, whose financial crisis recently erupted, have transferred German international Jurgen Schutz to Messina for a £20,000 fee which was collected and held by the F.A. To ensure they see out this season, the Liga Nazionale have loaned the club £11,000 only to be used for players' wages, but the future looks bleak unless they can raise several hundred thousand pounds. One rumour suggests fusion with neighbouring Lazio, but they have their money problems too.

## CHILE

UNIVERSIDAD de Chile finally won the championship as they had promised right from the start. Finishing with fifty-two points from thirty-four games, Universidad Catolica and Wanderers (Valparaiso) were nine points behind. There were several really big gates in Santiago during the season — proof that staging the World Cup gave the game a big boost, and near the end of the campaign 80,000 watched a 0-0 draw between the two University teams. At the end of the season, Colo Colo staged a big-money tournament with the participation of the two University squads, the Czech National team, River Plate F.C. and Santos. For five matches River were paid £18,000, the Czechs collected £27,000, while Santos got £30,000. No game pulled in less than 60,000 and the series was still a profit maker despite the big overheads. River Plate won the tourney — from Santos and the Czech team, with the home teams last

After Fernando Riera declined the job of steering Chile through to the 1966 World Cup, the F.A. appointed Francisco Hormazabal Castillo, the forty-five-year-old former Colo Colo star, who made a name for himself by bringing Green Cross out of the Second Division. In 1962, he was assistant to Riera.

Injury-hit Inter have missed the services of Jair their brilliant winger. Here he signs autographs. (Keystone.)

## TURKEY

THE recall of Sandro Puppo, the Italian magician who steered the Turks to success in the 1954 World Cup, doesn't appear to be paying off, if the 5-1 defeat in Portugal can be accepted as evidence. After that defeat, many Istanbul critics would like to see either Oscar Hold (England) or Ljubisa Spajic (Yugoslavia) take over, if their clubs would release them. These two have dominated the league race this season, Hold with Fenerbahce, and Spajic with Besiktas occupying the top two places at the half-way mark. Galatasaray, the other big gun, are out of the running and fifth, but still managed a prestige boosting 1-1 draw with Fenerbahce.

Fenerbahce claim to have benefited enormously from the strict discipline and tough training methods of their English boss, and are two points ahead of Besiktas, with the rest strung out a further six points behind. The only well-known player figuring amongst the leading scorers is Metin Oktay of Galatasaray with eight goals from fifteen games while top place is held by a youngster, Ziya of Fenerbahce, with nine. Generally, goals are hard to find, with the Turks tightening up their defences.

## RUSSIA

THE new national team chief, Nikolai Morosow, has been busy since October making his plans for the World Cup. Wales, he thinks, have no chance, and the only rival he fears is Denmark. Russia's autumn form was disappointing, however — 0-1 v. Austria, 1-1 v. Yugoslavia and 0-0 v. Bulgaria, and Morosow has a great deal to do if he is to succeed where predecessors Beskov and Katchaline failed.

The only polished player available is Torpedo Moscow right-half Valeri Voronin, elected Footballer of the Year by a wide margin over club-mate Ivanov. Twenty-five years old, Voronin was twice honoured by F.I.F.A. teams in 1964. The reinforced Moscow Dynamo team — a near National XI — toured South America recently but were generally unimpressive. Beaten several times and with Yachin losing his temper (and being sent off) in Peru, the tourists answered none of Morosow's problems. The team this year will probably be dominated by the familiar names, Ivanov, Ponedelnik, Metreveli and Meshki, but only two of the probables are real veterans, Yachin and Ivanov, who played in the last two World Cups.

## YUGOSLAVIA

AFTER the disappointments of the Olympic Games in Tokyo, selector/manager Ljubomir Lovric resigned. After the national side's most unsuccessful year since the war, he felt he should step down. Finding a replacement was not easy and finally the F.A. opted for a committee headed by Alexandre Tirnanic, who has been boss once before. He will be assisted by four club coaches, Ciric, Antolkovic, Gegio, and Miljanic. The best news, however, concerns Red Star inside-forward Dragoslav Sekularac, who has been out of action for seven months, but is now back in training.

The structure of the Yugoslav game has once more come under review, with professional contracts figuring prominently in the suggested reforms. It was tried before, in an attempt to stop the mass migration of players, but rescinded after only a few weeks, to leave more than forty "pros" playing in an all-amateur country! Even the most popular clubs, Partizan and Red Star, can't really afford to turn pro, but constant reports of big illegal payments have forced many officials to the point where they believe "payment cannot be stamped out, so it's better to allow it openly".

# Report from S. America

by GORDON JEFFERY

● *Continued from page 39*

**June 13:** v. Peru in Montevideo (W.C. Qual.).
**,, 20:** v. Brazil in Montevideo (Rio Branco Cup).
**,, 24:** v. Brazil in Montevideo (Rio Branco Cup)
and, if the two matches with Brazil end all-square, June 27 also against Brazil in Montevideo as a decider.

Uruguay have already been in action in International football in 1965 with a match against the touring East German national eleven—and the Uruguayans experienced a considerable disappointment when they lost by two goals to nil. A few days later another Uruguayan side, that passed off as a Montevideo selection, played a second match against the East Germans and were relieved to get away with a one-all draw. Currently the zest has gone out of Uruguayan football that once deserved a reputation for being both fast and attacking. You will recall Uruguay's mixed results on their 1964 tour of Europe—they beat Morocco by a single goal in Casablanca (where many European national teams have had to struggle), were easily beaten 3-0 by N. Ireland, escaped with only an odd goal in three defeat against England at Wembley, gained a two-goal victory over Austria (who otherwise enjoyed a good year), and were then only beaten by a full-back's goal by the Soviet Union.

### Weakened

Uruguay, we were told, and rightly accepted, were weakened on the tour by the absence of Nacional and, save for the coloured centre-forward Spencer who was rushed in to strengthen the party, Penarol players. Not surprisingly therefore the first 1965 Uruguayan side (for their match against East Germany in Montevideo on January 3) showed changes from the European touring party. Taibo remained in goal and Diaz at left-back whilst Gil, who had been inside-left against England and Austria, was the floating centre-half; otherwise the defence was changed with Baeza at right-back, Edgardo Gonzalez right-half and Mario Mendez left-half. And none of the forwards —Abbadie, a veteran of the 1954 World Cup, Pedro Rocha, Jose Sasia, Hector Silva and the naturalised Peruvian, Juan Joya, had played on tour in Europe. This does not mean, however, that the tourists, who did after all gain two wins in five matches, have been written-off. Several of them were amongst the party of thirty-four players nominated for special collective training before the East German match—amongst them Ricardo Pavoni who played so well at left-half (but occupying the left-back position in our understanding) at Wembley, Hector Cincunegui (right-half at Wembley), Nelson Chavay and Alberto Ferrero.

Two of Brazil's top club teams, Santos and Bahia, are undertaking European tours this spring and summer.

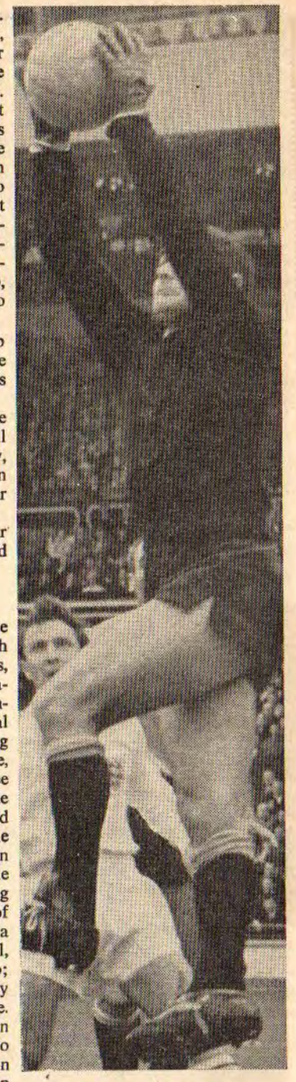
Bahia are scheduled to arrive in England on April 19 and will then play matches in Germany, Belgium, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe and Russia. The tour will end on August 16.

Santos are making a shorter tour, beginning on May 20 and ending on June 30.

### National

All in all, footballers are due for a very busy period in South America with national matches, a whole roundabout of tournaments (of which the most important has been the Hexagonal in Santiago with the touring Czechoslovakian national side, Santos, River Plate, and three home clubs, Universidad de Chile, Universidad Catolica and Colo Colo, taking part) and the South American Champion Clubs Cup. In the latter, the initial qualifying groups bring together the champion clubs of Ecuador, Bolivia and Argentina in Group One; those of Brazil, Chile and Peru in Group Two; and those of Uruguay, Paraguay and Venezuela in Group Three. The only result to date was in the last group where Deportivo Galicia were beaten at home in Venezuela by the odd goal in three by the Paraguayan champions, Guarani.

In the Hexagonal Tournament the winners were Pelé's club, Santos—inevitably? They were, in fact, beaten once: 3-2 by River Plate but have since gained a one-nil revenge. River were themselves beaten by the Universidad de Chile and only drew with Colo Colo. Full table and results:



WILLIAM TAIBO. (Planet.)

**HEXAGONAL TOURNAMENT**

| | v. Santos | v. R.P. | v. Cz. | v. U.deC. | v. C-C | v. U.Cat. | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | Pt. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Santos | — | 2-3 | 6-4 | 3-0 | 3-2 | 2-1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 10 | 8 |
| River Plate | 3-2 | — | 2-1 | 0-2 | 3-3 | 1-0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 7 |
| Czecho'kia | 4-6 | 1-2 | — | 4-3 | 2-1 | 4-2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 14 | 6 |
| U. de Chile | 0-3 | 2-0 | 3-4 | — | 1-0 | 2-2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| Colo Colo | 2-3 | 3-3 | 1-2 | 0-1 | — | 2-2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 2 |
| U. Catolica | 1-2 | 0-1 | 2-4 | 2-2 | 2-2 | — | 0 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 2 |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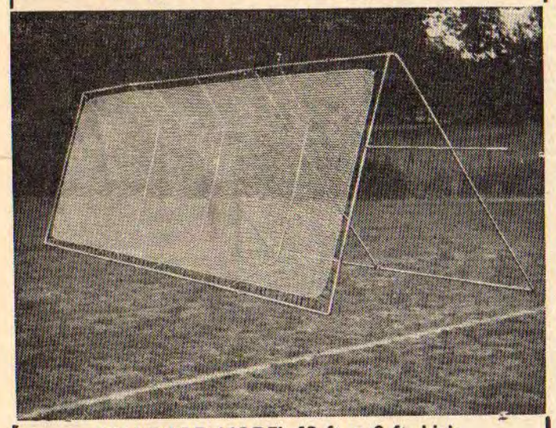

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# REFRESHING INNOCENCE

by NORMAN D. REICH

● *Continued from page 10*

F.I.F.A. panel and he has handled several African internationals.

Kenya is assuring that she does not lag too far behind East Africa's pace-setters, Uganda, with plenty of match practice for the national side. In December, Kenya became a republic. What better a way to celebrate than with a two-leg series against Zambia for the Jamhuru Cup. Kenya won the first match 2-0 but lost the second 5-1.

However, under Manager C. Tamale, they are showing steady improvement. In goal, they have the dependable Okoth as first choice. Sianga is his understudy. The full-backs, Amuke and Omar, are steady, rather than flamboyant.

### Flanked

Burly centre-half Maynard is the only European in the side. He is flanked on either side by two attacking half-backs in Situmi and Kuddu. Kuddu, a youngster, made his début in 1964 and with his talent for being in the right spot to score goals as well as save them, he has been hailed as Kenya's find of the season. He displaced the experienced Amrani from the team.

Centre-forward Madegwa is a bustling player cast in the Bobby Smith mould. He is quick on to a bobbing ball and hits it with telling force. Nicodemus is, however, the goal snatching opportunist of the side. He operates equally well in any forward position. He links particularly well with the hard-working inside-left, John Ngaywa, when featuring at outside-left, but Abdullah has often appeared in this position, with Nicodemus at inside-right. Winger Raguogi and the pint-sized Brek have lately settled into a profitable right wing partnership. Amongst Kenya's rising players is teenage forward Kadenji, who has made three international appearances.

### Success

For the moment, though, Uganda hold sway in East Africa. Her success stems from a core of experienced players combining with younger starlets. Left-half Otti has taken over the captaincy from his former half-back partner, Sebowe. Kadou has now stepped into Sebowe's berth. Goalkeeper Ngambeki, together with the tough-tackling full-backs, Mbirizi and Kariahikwa, provide Uganda with a solid defence that is still capable of swinging a close game with a sudden offensive. In centre-half Fatema, they have a bustling player of the old-fashioned Billy Wright variety who relies on anticipation and the effective slide-tackle. The centre-forward spot alternates between Kintosa, Omonding and Kanza. The inside-forwards are Matte and Mukasa, high scorers both.

### Problem

At outside-right, Uganda once had a problem. Now, the nineteen-year-old Kitande has made the position his own. This brilliant ball-player made his début against Northern Rhodesia in October and has been playing brilliantly ever since. The other flank is brought up by Uganda's only European, Baker, a wiry player who heads for goal every time he gets the chance. He is the side's penalty "king", too.

Slowly, East Africa's soccer potential is flowering into bloom. It is welcome, for it has a contribution to make to the world of soccer.


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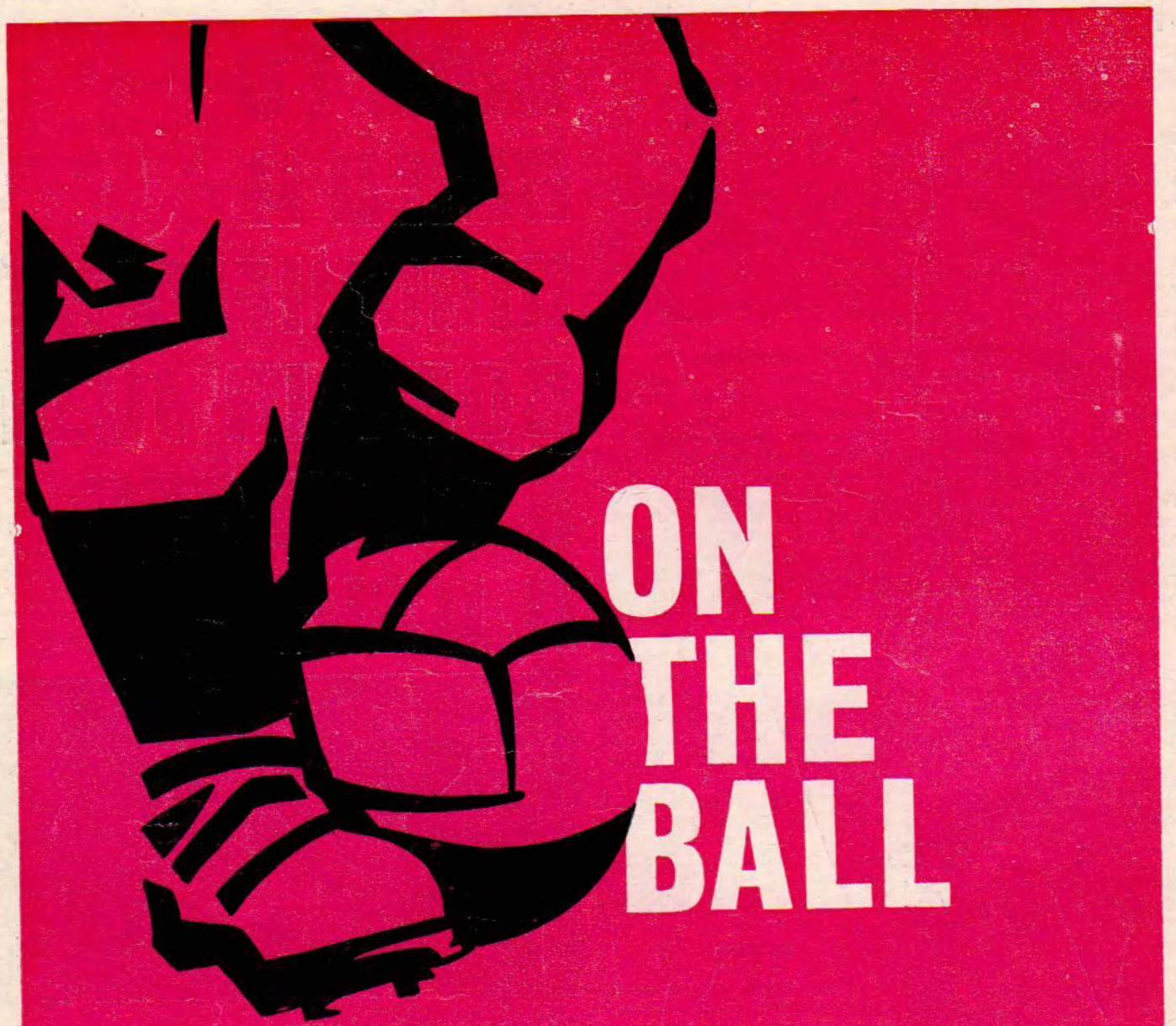

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